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SUPER ROOS!

Scheinflug's men beat Korea 3-2

Les Scheinflug's Socceroos emulated their historic 1967 Asian success by winning the Merlion Trophy in Singapore on Sunday.



Coach Les Scheinflug



Peter Katholos



David Mitchell



Phil O'Connor



Gary Cole



George Christopoulos

They won the final against traditional rival South Korea 3-2, after leading 2-0 and 3-1.

South Korea also was the Socceroos' victim in the 1967 Vietnam National Day tournament in Saigon. The series was contested by eight countries, and Australia beat South Korea 3-2 in the final.

Seven countries contested the Merlion Trophy in Singapore.

Australia's results, with goal scorers, were: v. Thailand 4-0 (Kosmina 2, O'Connor, Cole), v. Indonesia 2-0 (Mitchell 2), v. Malaysia (semi-final) 5-0 (Katholos 2, Kosmina pen, O'Connor, Cole) and v. South Korea (final) 3-2 (O'Connor, Mitchell, Christopoulos).

"Soccer Action" hopes to bring you more details, including team line-ups, in our last issue for 1982 next week.

Newspaper coverage of the Merlion tournament has been poor because no Australian newspaper sent along a journalist to cover it. Neither did Australian Association Press.

In the final the Australians led 2-0 at half-time and won the first prize money of 40,000 Singapore dollars (about \$20,000 Aust).

Phil O'Connor put Australia into the lead in the 17th minute and David Mitchell added another in the 34th minute.

The Koreans pulled one back in the 14th minute of the second half through Oh Suk-Jae.

But another Australian goal two minutes later by George Christopoulos sank the Koreans who made several desperate raids. Their efforts were awarded seven whistles before the final whistle through Park Chang-Seun.

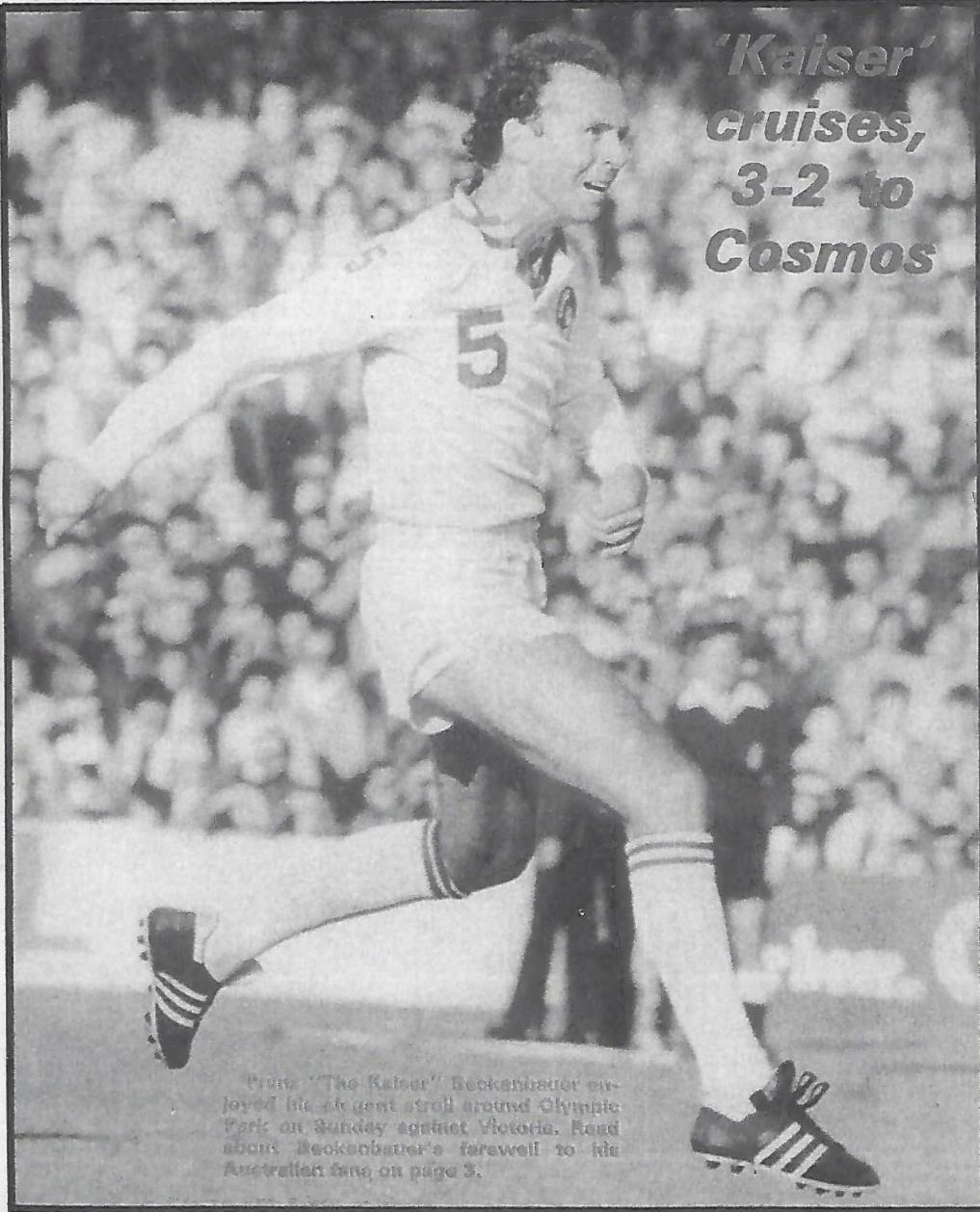
Indonesia earlier clinched third place with a 4-3 victory over Malaysia on penalty kicks.

Other countries taking part in the 12-day tournament were Brunei, Thailand and host Singapore.

The Socceroo's success is an inspiration to Australia's youth team which leaves on Sunday for a tournament in Mexico (see page 5).

Continued p.5

Paul "The Kaiser" Reekenbaker enjoyed his elegant stroll around Olympic Park on Sunday against Victoria. Read about Reekenbaker's farewell to his Australian fans on page 3.



Hangover Semi — Mac's last stand?

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Blareyed Ajax players face a fit, confident Croydon at Olympic Park on Sunday in the first of the semi-finals for the 1982 Victorian Dockerty Cup.

Ajax's annual presentation night at this Saturday and manager-coach Bobby McLachlan was hoping that Ajax would play in the second of Sunday's semi-finals, "to give the lads time to get their systems in order," he quipped. This could be McLachlan's last match as

Ajax boss. Even as we spoke last Monday morning, McLachlan was being phoned by other clubs and sounded out about coaching them in 1983.

"I'm hoping of course that we can knock off Croydon and go on to win the Dockerty Cup," he said.

"However, if we lose, it could be my last match in charge of Ajax. I still don't know what I'm going to do next year. I probably won't make a decision until November."

Peter and Paul Lewis also could be playing their last games for Ajax on Sunday. South Melbourne Hellas probably will make a bid for this talented pair. Peter Lewis, the strong, attacking right back, was very impressive in Victoria's 3-2 defeat by New York Cosmos. In the second half of that match Paul Lewis

caught the eye with his sizzling acceleration even though he didn't finish as well as he should have.

I think Sunday's game against Croydon will be the second last match for the Lewis lads and McLachlan with Ajax. There still is the final of the Dockerty Cup to be played the following week and my bet is that Ajax will be one of the finalists.

Continued p.7



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WILL HE BE BACK AS NATIONAL COACH?

Beckenbauer talks of how the U.S. changed his life

By PETER WEINIGER and LAURIE SCHWAB

Australian fans have had their last look at Franz Beckenbauer, the man who ranks alongside Pele, Puskas, Di Stefano, Cruyff and Charlton as one of the greatest players yet.

But what's the betting that he'll be back on the world stage in a slightly different role?

Persistent reports have been coming out of Germany about the possibility of Beckenbauer being appointed national coach to replace Jupp Derwall whose tactics did not endear him to the public during the World Cup.

Beckenbauer confided to a few people in high places during his visit to Melbourne that "there is a chance" he may get the job. If it were left to a public vote, he'd obviously win in a landslide. And if he doesn't get the job now, he'll certainly get it some time in the future.

We spoke to Beckenbauer shortly after his arrival with the Cosmos from Los Angeles. He was tired and unshaven, but looked trim and super-fit and despite the jet-lag, was obliging and frank.

Earlier this year — after having returned to Germany to help Hamburg SV win the championship — Beckenbauer decided to call it quits. For the first time in his long career, he had been plagued by injuries. "That was it. I decided to get out while I was still fit and enjoying the game," he says. "It's always better to stop while they still want you to play on."

So why this sudden comeback for the Cosmos' tour of Australia, South Korea and Japan?

"Cosmos asked me to tour with them when I was in the U.S. recently playing in a UNICEF benefit game. Maybe I'll play other charity games, but I've finished with serious soccer. I now have the time to enjoy myself — play tennis and golf and go skiing in the winter."

He didn't know much about the Cosmos team except that it had just won its fifth U.S. championship and that its top scorer, Georgia Chinaglia, was still "soccer like a machine".

Beckenbauer, former captain of West Germany, twice European Footballer of the Year and five times German Player of the Year, is re-

ported to be earning \$5000 a match on this tour, but that's chicken feed compared with previous earnings.

His earlier contract with the Cosmos is said to have been worth \$4 million and at Hamburg he was earning \$550,000 a year.

A former team-mate described playing alongside Beckenbauer thus: "Franz has the best basic skills that I have ever seen in a soccer player. It's awe-inspiring to watch him. He does the simple things so very, very well that it's frightening. He makes it look so easy. And I know that the simple things is the hardest to do on a soccer field."

His rise, however, was not without its pressures. The inevitable fame that afflicts the famous hit Beckenbauer in 1977.

His team, Bayern Munich, was on the decline and some sections of the German Press were out for his blood.

"When one thing starts to go wrong, everything goes bad," he says. "I had form problems, family problems and tax problems."

The tabloid Press published a series of sensational allegations about the private life of Beckenbauer and his wife: there were rumours of an illegitimate child.

In the midst of the traumas, an escape route materialised in the form of an offer from the Cosmos who were looking for someone to replace the ageing Pele as the focus to promote American soccer.

He grabbed the opportunity and the money and the chance for a fresh challenge. "In Germany there was nothing left for me to aim at. I had won everything that was possible to win," he says.

It was a decision that was to change his life. In America, Beckenbauer was relatively unknown. At last he was able to walk down the street unrecognised, freed from the fishbowl existence he had lived for so long in Germany.

In America, he says he was able to grow up and wake up.

"I began to relax. The Americans have a different mentality to the Germans. In Germany it's all work, work, work, work, build, build; create, create, create. This also creates a lot of problems. In America, they also like to enjoy life and the people are more friendly and helpful".

He also welcomed a more friendly U.S. Press.

"In Germany, the Press is over here, the players

and the coach are over there. No-one talks. They are enemies, but in America they are all friends".

Being based in New York allowed him to discover Broadway, the ballet and the Metropolitan Opera.

He is a close friend of the tenor Plácido Domingo, a confessed soccer addict. They are a mutual admiration society. After a concert, it is not uncommon for the two stars to go off and spend hours talking about soccer.

Soccer has made him a rich man. He is reported to be a millionaire.

To maintain a sense of perspective, Beckenbauer, the son of a small town postman, likes to remember the day he got his first pair of soccer boots. He was 13 years old.

As a youngster, he played barefoot because the family could not afford to buy him boots. One year he asked the local cobbler to cut down an old pair of ski boots and attach studs to them.

The very next year, the sponsors of his junior team presented him with a pair of Adidas boots. "It was the most fantastic day of my life," he recalls. "That night I slept with them under my pillow." These days he is virtually a one-man soccer industry, and one of the Adidas company's most valuable assets with a healthy contract to sponsor Adidas products.

He said the Cosmos were trying to attract a new soccer giant to fill the void left by Beckenbauer and Pele.

Zico of Brazil or Falcao, a Brazilian based in Italy, are two of the targets of the Warner Communications Moguls who own the Cosmos franchise.

And they'll spare no expense to get a man capable of injecting new life into U.S. soccer.

In 1976 they lured Pele out of a seven-months retirement with \$7.2 million, a private plane and a yacht.

Asked to pinpoint the secret of his own success, Beckenbauer says:

"If you want to succeed in sport, you need talent and practice, practice, practice. The talent is the minimum, the practice is the maximum. I never realised how hard I worked because soccer was my life, apart from my family."

"I could be feeling tired and then someone would give me a ball and suddenly I wasn't tired any more."



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GARDINER FORGOTTEN IN THE BALLYHOO

VICTORIA 2 (Murphy penalty 70th, Brown 81st) NEW YORK COSMOS 3 (Cannell own goal 15th, Neeskens 54th, Chinaglia 58th) at Olympic Park. Crowd: about 12,000. Referee: Mellings 8.

VICTORIA: Oliver 8 — Peter Lewis 9, Gardiner 7, Cannell 7, Yankos 6, Iloski 6 (G. Campbell h. 7), J. Campbell 7, Mila 8 (Brown 81st), Murphy 5 — Brown 1, Gilder 12nd, Paul Lewis 7. **NEW YORK COSMOS:** Birkenmeier 8 — Gee 7 (Ekander 15th), Beckenbauer 8, Durgan 8, Kapp 7 — Neeskens 8 (Iaruscio 66th), Davis 8, Bogicevic 8 (Seninio 60th) — Cabanas 7, Chinaglia 6, Romero 8.

Let's try to forget about Franz Beckenbauer for a second and think about John Gardiner, the sweeper who bowed out of representative soccer here after more than a decade.

No presentation was made to Gardiner before his final appearance for the State.

Gardiner has played better games for Victoria. Twice in this match he gave the ball away inside the defensive third of the field. You wouldn't use up the fingers of one hand if you started to count the number of times he's done that for Victoria.

But these two mistakes are forgotten when you reminisce over what Gardiner has contributed to the Victorian State team.

His awareness, knowledge and skill are unsurpassed in Victorian soccer. He arguably is the most intelligent player to pull on the dark blue strip and as his playing career at top level winds down he can look forward to an illustrious coaching career at the highest levels of Australian soccer.

It is fitting that it should be a superb Gardiner through ball which led to Victoria's first goal. The Vics were 3-0 down and it looked like a case of Watford revisited until Gar-

diner surged forward, slipped the ball into the path of Jim Campbell who was flanked and screened. Mellings pointed to the penalty spot. Kenny Murphy converted. About 11 minutes later irrepressible Dougie Brown bobbed up, Hubert Birkenmeier didn't bob down quickly enough and we had a match at last.

The first half had been no contest. Cosmos had the ball most of the time. The few occasions when the Vics had possession they gave it away quickly.

It seemed that Victoria was overviewed from the outset. Look to the left and there's "The Kaiser", look to the right and there's John Neeskens. In the middle stands tall, elegant Vladislav Bogicevic and a few metres in front of him lurks ageless goal machine Giorgio Chinaglia. Stuart Cannell wasn't overviewed. It took him about 20 seconds to scythe down Chinaglia and earn a booking.

Victorian right back Peter Lewis was the first local to suffer from the effects of shellshock. But that's Lewis all over. Once he's out on the park he couldn't give a damn if his opponent had played in half a dozen World Cup-winning sides.

He was Victoria's best. In-

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE

deed, from my parochial perspective, he was the player of the match. That's from what I glimpsed fleeting in between stops gazing at Beckenbauer.

I headed home from the match and listened to my old mate Jose Montez on 3EA verbally head-butting Beckenbauer's halo out of orbit.

Tut, tut Jose. You didn't watch the great man closely, I fear. The casual, almost disdainful flick of the ball with the outside and inside of either foot, hallmark of "The Kaiser", captivated about 23,998 eyes. Maybe Jose borrowed Peter Doherty's sunglasses for the afternoon.

While we're on (or in) the pressbox, let me relate a few amusing incidents.

I arrived at the great box in time to watch Lulor United and Melbourne Croatia under-12's enter the playing arena to start their battle for the JLMC Cup. As both sets of players warmed up before the kick-off, the Phantom of the Loudspeakers struck: "Would the goalkeepers please move out of the goal area. Come on boys, let's do the right thing," said the Phantom.

One of the youngsters didn't oblige.

"Would the goalkeepers please move out of the goal area. Come on boys, let's do the right thing," said the Phantom.

One of the youngsters didn't oblige.

"Would the goalkeepers in the yellow top please move out of the goal area. Now come on boys!"



Victorian captain John Gardiner (left) and Charlie Yankos combine to stop Cosmos right back Darryl Gee who has made his way up the flank. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

Oliver charged out of goal but too late, as Cannell's mazy run header sent the ball leaping away from Cosmos defenders into the back of the Victorian net.

Dave Brogan and Stefan Mila provided Victoria's only two shots in the first half but neither tested Birkenmeier.

Zoran Iloski, on the right side of Victoria's midfield quartet, didn't appear after half time. Little George Campbell came on and immediately sparked some life into the Victorian attack with a few crosses which had Cosmos defenders under pressure to clear.

Three minutes into the second stanza, a Peter Lewis cross from the right led to a superb Mila volley which had top corner written all over it until the hand of Birkenmeier faintly touched the ball over.

Then, just when it looked like the Vics could get back into the match, Cosmos scored a goal almost as silly as their first.

Bogicevic took a corner which he curled to the near post. Charlie Yankos jumped but beat two Cosmos players. At his back was Neeskens who got a head to the ball and sent it looping over Oliver.

Gardiner was inside the Victorian goal and volleyed clear but too late. The ball had crossed the line and referee Mellings pointed to the centre circle.

Then came the most clear-cut chance of the match. A long ball sent Paul Lewis scooping away from Cosmos defenders into a one-one-one situation with Birkenmeier. Lewis tried to slot the ball low under Birkenmeier who had read the situation well and spread himself to save.

The best goal of the game came in the 58th minute. It involved a six touch interpassing move which ended when Bogicevic tapped the ball to his left and the incoming Chinaglia struck it firmly along the ground and inside the far post — a marvellous example of the clinical finishing which is Chinaglia's forte.

Victoria's fightback started with the Murphy penalty awarded after a clumsy challenge by Robert Iaruscio on Jim Campbell.

Then at long, long, long last Dougie Brown came on as a replacement for Mila. While I welcomed Brown's appearance, as belated as it was, I was disappointed that the man selected to make way for Brown was Mila, one of the best midfielders on display.

Anyway, Brown was the man who made Cosmos sweat for the last nine minutes of play after he beat Birkenmeier at the near post with a low shot to make it 3-2.

Vic stars may switch

Stefan Mila for Footscray J.U.S.T., Doug Brown to leave Makedonia, Peter Lewis and Paul Lewis being chased by South Melbourne Hellas ...

These are only some of the strongly-backed rumors doing the rounds.

J.U.S.T. are indeed not only in Mila, the Polonese maestro, but also believe it or not, in Phil O'Connor of Wellington.

Brown is believed to be unhappy with the contract conditions offered to him by Makedonia. J.U.S.T. probably would be keen to sign him.

Hellas and Sunshine City officials watched the

Lowises against New York Cosmos last Sunday, and were tremendously impressed.

Peter Lewis however, is still more interested in spending time with his family than playing national league soccer. He did say however, he may just consider it if someone offers him the equivalent of what he now gets from soccer and his job as a maintenance fitter.

Peter Lewis, 27, joined Sunshine City from Scotland in late 1975. He later captained Altona City before switching to Alex early last year.

Peter Lewis is still under 21 but was top scorer in the State League this year, with 23 goals.



Cosmos before the kick off. From left: Chinaglia, Birkenmeier, Beckenbauer, Durgan, Romero, David, Gee, Kapp, Neeskens, Cabanas, Bogicevic.



Victoria lines up before the kick off. From left: White (coach), J. Campbell, Mila, Gilder, Bennett, Incantalupo, Adams, G. Campbell, Brown, Iloski, Murphy, Brogan, Paul Lewis, Peter Lewis, Cannell, Yankos, Potter, Oliver, Gardiner.

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Close shave for Cosmos



Brkic stands

Milan Brkic definitely will contest the Footscray JUST presidency against challenger Zlka Karlic at the annual meeting on October 31.

It will be at Footscray Institute of Technology, E Block.

Brkic said at JUST's annual ball at the Southern Cross Hotel last week that he had been assured by the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Recreation, that it would provide assistance to build a social club and a stand at Schnitter Reserve.

He added the City of Melbourne also may help.

About 325 people attended the annual ball. Among the VIP guests was the mayor of Footscray, Cr Ted Logan.

Creek sparkles

Diamond Creek has beaten three First Division clubs on its march into Sunday's Amateur League Cup final at Heldelberg-Bundoora's ground against Postel Institute.

Diamond Creek defeated Bundoora 3-2 in the semi-finals with goals by George Mihailidis, Steve Curtis and Terry McGuilligan.

After being dumped by the VSF into Amateur League

during the league's reshuffle which took place at the start of the year, Diamond Creek has done well to reach this Cup final. The club lost many players and prospective sponsors by not being included in the restructured Provisional Leagues.

CRAIG MACKENZIE

Rosanna's Cup

ROSANNA 2 (Mooney, Staples) **HOLLAND PARK 1** (Koca). Provisional League Cup Final at Sixth Avenue, Burwood.

ROSANNA: Simpson 7, Yearsley 8, Fagan 8, Vandervort 8, Palermo 8, Sampson 7, Brown 8, Stodd 7, Staples 8, Mooney 9, Welsby 8 (Kelly 6).

HOLLAND PARK: Kocan 8, Z. Omerogullari 6, Sir 8, Koca 7, Gumerli 6 (Yahyal 1, Omerogullari 6, Solak 8, Ilhan 8, Kaprol 7, Savinc 6).

Rosanna celebrated its promotion to Metro ranks with this fine 2-1 win over Holland Park.

Turkish-sponsored Holland Park has done extremely well to win Fourth Division of the Provisional Leagues and reach the final of the provisional League Cup but you can't take anything away from Rosanna, which should acquit itself admirably in Metro ranks next year.

Rosanna went 2-0 up in the first 15 minutes and although Aladdin Koca pulled a goal back for Holland Park before half time, it was Rosanna which ran out a deserved victor.

Holland Park was delighted with its season and although beaten in this final the club still has high hopes of being admitted to Metro ranks for the 1983 season.

Five million dollars worth of soccer talent almost came to grief in the traffic on Queens Road in St Kilda last Thursday.

The New York Cosmos were heading from the President Motor Inn to Olympic Park for training, when their bus came within a whisker of a head-on collision with a truck.

Assistant trainer David Chin tells the story:

"Someone forced the truck out in front of us.

"Our driver had to pull sharply into the kerb and we came to an abrupt halt."

Erol Yasin, the assistant coach, was thrown forward against the seat in front of him, and hurt his right knee.

He had an ice pack applied to the injury before leading the players in warming-up exercises after arriving at Olympic Park.

• PICTURE: The Cosmos bus (right) swerves into the kerb to avoid a truck forced out by the Mercedes (left) which is on the wrong side of the road.



Cosmos' best player against Victoria, Julio Cesar Romero (left) streaks clear of Jim Campbell. Pictures by LES SHORROCK

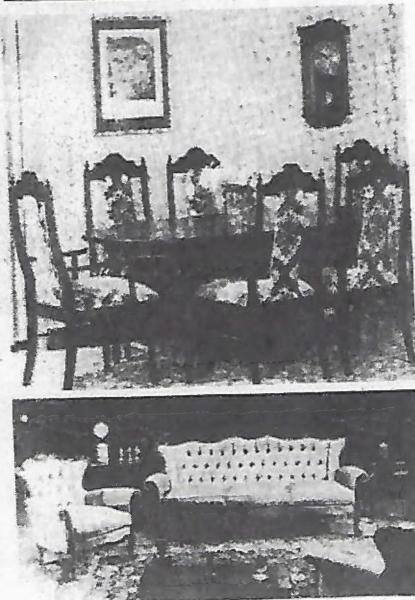
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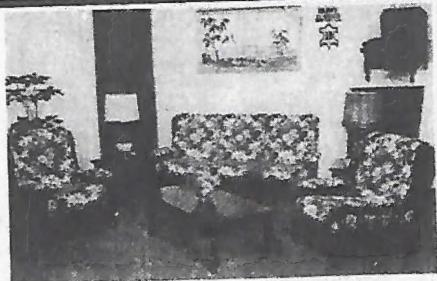


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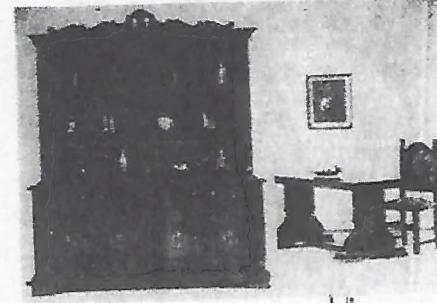


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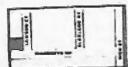
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AJUNI and West link?

AJUNI Rovers to amalgamate with Western Suburbs? Could be.

Victorian State League club AJUNI approached its Metropolitan First Division neighbor and is understood to be interested in having talks about a possible merger.

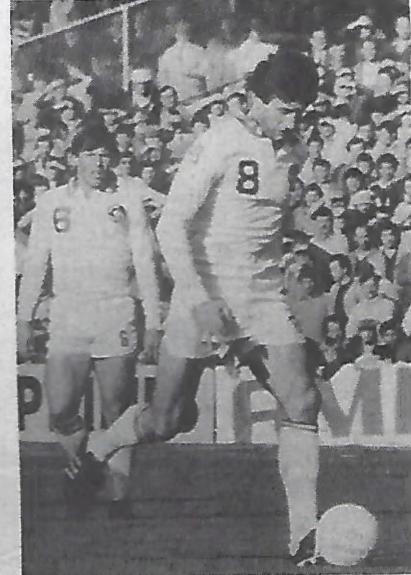
Meanwhile, the merger negotiations between Sunshine and George Cross are continuing smoothly.

The amalgamation should be completed in the next few weeks and the new club will be administered by a nine-member board of management.

Sunshine will have four representatives on the new board: Terry Walker, Scott Few, Adrian van Santvoort and Wally Melak.



Doveton's Warren Spink is presented with the 1982 Weinstein Medal as the best and fairest under-16 player in Victoria by the legendary Franz Beckenbauer.



Last issue next week

Next week's issue of "Soccer Action" will be our last for 1982 but we'll be back with all the news and views from around Australia in late January 1983.

We just have completed our seventh year of publication, a highly successful one thanks to our growing circulation and advertising. A special acknowledgment must go to Buffalo Sport, which has supported us throughout the past two seasons.

We wish all our readers and advertisers a very merry Christmas and a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

LEFT: Vladislav Bogicevic arrived in Melbourne only on the morning of the match, yet played brilliantly in the first half against Victoria. In the background is Rick Davis, the man who did the defensive covering for Franz Beckenbauer.



Peter Lewis (left) was Victoria's best player against the Cosmos. Here he tries to close down striker Roberto Cabanas. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

Bribery claim, 5-0 in semi

From page one

Singapore police refused to comment on a report that several people had been detained for trying to bribe Indonesian footballers in the tournament.

A spokesman for the Corruption Practices Investigation Bureau said only that the recent Indonesia-Australia match was being investigated.

The chairman of the Indonesian Football Federation, Syarmini, reportedly said in Jakarta that people had approached four Indonesian players offering them bribes if they would let Australia beat Indonesia by five goals to one, so that Thailand would qualify for the semi-finals.

He said the incident had been reported to the Singapore police, who had arrested those

involved in the bribery attempt.

Australia beat Indonesia 2-0.

In the semi-finals Australia snuffed out Malaysia 5-0.

The Australians, led 2-0 at half-time.

Malaysia, playing without striker Nadarajan, the top scorer of the tournament, to that stage, put up a spirited fight but could not break the margin.

The Australians opened the account in the 19th minute with Peter Katholos heading in a ball weakly cleared by Malaysian defender Wong Hong Nang, with goalkeeper Arumugham out of position.

In the 37th minute, Katholos again found the Malaysian net

when he collected a ball punched out by goalkeeper Arumugham and slammed it in.

Malaysia replaced captain and keeper Arumugham at half-time in a bid to stem the Australian onslaught.

But the Aussies found themselves three goals down 11 minutes into the second half when Australia was awarded a penalty.

Sydney City striker and captain John Kosmina made no mistake from the spot.

Eight minutes later Kosmina fed a ball down the left flank for Phil O'Connor to score Australia's fourth.

Replacement striker Gary Cole latched on to a David Mitchell pass to score Australia's fifth.

The hero of Australia's 2-0 win over Indonesia was young striker David Mitchell, who scored both goals, in the 73rd and 77th minutes.

The Indonesians played an ultra-defensive game, with their only aim being to stop the Australians scoring.

This proved very effective until Mitchell grabbed his goals within the space of four minutes during the second half.

Socceroo coach Les Scheinfugl made four changes in his lineup from the team that thrashed Thailand in the first game.

David Ratcliffe, Peter Katholos, Gary Cole and Phil O'Connor were rested and Steve Blair, George Christopoulos, Charlie Egan and Mitchell were given a run.

But Katholos and O'Connor came on as substitutes in the second half to replace Raskopoulos and Egan.

Scheinfugl was again happy with the performance of his team and said the experience gained would prove invaluable.

Group standings before the final:

POOL A

	POOL A	POOL B
South Korea.....	1 2 0 0 9 2 6	2 0 1 6 3 4
Malaysia.....	2 0 1 6 3 4	3 0 2 7 3 2
Singapore.....	3 0 2 7 3 2	3 0 0 3 1 1 5 0
Brunei.....	3 0 0 3 1 1 5 0	

POOL B

Australia.....	2 2 0 0 6 0 4
Indonesia.....	2 0 1 1 0 2 1
Thailand.....	2 0 1 1 0 4 1

Improvements needed to avoid Mexican massacre

By MENO TOUTSIDIS

SA 3 (Cole 26th, Honeyman 57th, Malta 69th) YOUTH SOCCEROOS 0 at Hindmarsh Stadium (Saturday).

SA 1: Pivetta 7 (Gale 69th) - Cole 5, Dunn 8 (Lees 70th), Manou 7, B. Nykjaer 8 (Gale 70th), Jones 6 - Blair 6 (Mate 69th), J. Nykjaer 6 (Handerson 72nd), Bojczuk 6 (Villani 60th), Honeyman 8, Heys 8.

YOUTH SOCCEROOS: Hammell 6 (Villani 76th) - Mader 7, McCulloch 7, Vilas 7, Jones 6 - Patikas 8, Slaten 7, Incantabipo 7 (Salvo 70th) - Wright 8, Lowe 7, Farino 7 (Malone 71st), Maxwell 30th

YOUTH SOCCEROOS 0 at Hindmarsh Stadium (Wednesday night):

SA UNDER 21: Gale 7 - Shillings 8, Tyerman 7, Lees 7, Manou 7 - Villani 8, Hood 7, Konstantopoulos 7, Jones 7, Maxwell 8, Rankin 8. Reserves: Beestel, Paragis 8.

YOUTH SOCCEROOS: Hammell 6 (Villani 76th) - Mader 7, McCulloch 8, Jones 6 (AIS), Farino 7 - Steve Marconi 7, Farino 7, Gale 7 (AIS) 6 - Patikas 8 (Sydney City 7), Wright 8 (Brisbane Lions) 7, Lowe 7 (Newcastle) 8, Incantabipo 7 (Melbourne Juniors) 7, Reserves: Slaten 7 (St Kilda) 8, Vilas 7, Jones 7 (AIS) 8, Mullen 7 (Port Hills), Salvo 7 (St Kilda), Bojczuk 8 (AIS), Franken 8.

The Youth Socceroos must improve dramatically over the next few weeks before they take on mighty Brazil in next month's Havelange Tournament in Acapulco Mexico. They leave on Monday.

The Socceroos stumbled in both their practice matches against SA State squads.

On Wednesday night, the State Under 21 team edged them out 1-0 in an exciting meeting.

But the Youth Socceroos were humbled 3-0 by the senior State team in a dull, uninspiring match on Saturday.

Assistant national coach Raul Blanco will prepare a fairly sombre report for national coach Les Scheinfugl, who has just returned with the senior team from Singapore.

The Youth side is at least two or three notches below the heroic World Youth Cup team of 1981. This of course is an unfair comparison as the current team still is in the embryo stage.

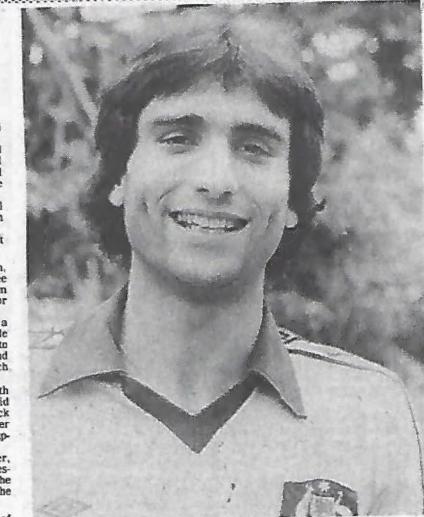
But with only a few weeks before the first meeting with Brazil, Scheinfugl and Blanco do not have time on their hands.

It of course must be recognised that the reason why the team has entered in the Mexican tournament is to give the squad valuable competitive practice against quality opposition.

The Youth Socceroos also will play Mexico and Qatar in their group.

The other group consists of USSR, the U.S. Argentina and Israel.

The Youth Socceroos will regroup after the tournament for the start of the New Guinea qualifying matches



Jim Patikas

Heys, one of the best wingers in Australia.

As in final preparation for the Mexico tournament, the matches here in Adelaide probably will be of no real benefit.

To begin with, the conditions the youngsters will encounter in Acapulco will be quite the opposite.

In Adelaide they had to battle chilly weather and a swirling wind.

However, Patikas, the recipient of an elbow in the face, obviously is a better player and hopefully his true form will emerge with the Acapulco squad.

Patikas played in midfield along with Patikas and Melbourne Juniors, Fabio Incantabipo.

One of the problem spots of Scheinfugl could be the left back position, currently occupied by Roy Jones of the AIS.

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Freak-out at Freakstone: pitches turn into paddocks

Coaches come and coaches go — this is the order of soccer life.

When they take over a new club, they usually bubble with enthusiasm; later, when they get the sack, they fire off some angry comments.

Something like these samples.

ON ARRIVAL:

I can't tell you how delighted I am to join Freakstone United. I believe it's the greatest club in the Southern Hemisphere, including Peru. The facilities are just marvellous, the organisation perfect, the management farsighted and the playing staff so exciting that I couldn't sleep a wink for days.

I've always admired Freakstone and often wondered what it would be like to coach there. It's an old dream come true.

The President said he would give me a free hand and there would be absolutely no pressure from any of the 75 committee members. It shows the members are interested. Many other clubs haven't even got 75 spectators but here, well, it's so refreshingly different.

The ground where we train is away from the noise and pollution of the city. We can work in a quiet, peaceful, almost pastoral setting without disturbance. The area has terrific potential for growth as I understand the local government plans to build even more houses there within the next 40 years.



Andrew Dettre

True, we have no goalposts yet — but so what? I've read in a magazine, "Psychiatry for Lonely Eskimos" that goalposts inhibit soccer players at practise and give a complex to those who may occasionally miss the target. Here there are no goalposts, no target — and no complex. I think it's brilliant.

As for the players, I can meet the challenge. The club wants to build the team entirely on local talent which is just lying on the street, mainly outside the pub. I believe the future of our soccer is in the hands of our young players. The pub is all there, there is no reason why we couldn't be the world's best in soccer. For instance, we already have won the Fours in lawn bowls at the Brisbane Games.

I asked whether we could sign or import one quality player so that our youngsters could learn from him. Maybe two or three players, I said, but certainly no more than nine. The club is thinking about it. And only as a temporary measure, mind you, until our own talented Under-5 side can take over. Then it's just locals. Nothing else.

ON DEPARTURE

I'm glad the nightmare is over. Never in my life have I seen such a mess as at the Freaks; the head-hunting Indians of the Amazon are better organised and more civilised than that lot. The facilities were primitive, the management full of imbeciles and the majority of players were disabled. That amputation would be the kindest solution to their problem. I had terrible fears about that club before I joined them but one has to eat, it's an awful habit which even my kids have now picked up.

The president, quite senile, didn't come to our matches and rated soccer behind sheep-shearing a spectacle. Then they had 75, yes, 75 various committees constantly feuding and fighting and pushing their favorite players into my team.

We had to train on a paddock and the players never knew when they would kick the ball or a piece of dry manure. No dressing sheds, no water, no markings, just a big meadow somewhere in the bush you only could find with a compass.

I asked the club for goalposts but they laughed. I was told that we can practise between two old oak trees and tie a yellow ribbon around them. I'm sure the reason we didn't have a ball but had to train with balloons. According to Harry Butler, no other human was penetrated the area since Discovery.

The players? Unbelievable. Most were rejects from other sports and missed a stationary ball eight times out of seven. Often I had to drag them from the pub. No drive, no ambition, talent. That's why soccer never will make it here. They should stick to archery and shuttlecock, maybe they'd win a medal or two there but not in soccer.

I suggested we sign some ready-made players but they at least could field a team but the club said no, they've read in some damned marketing report and also heard from our President that the talent is all here, so it must be. They also said that if we did have complete players, they wouldn't need a coach.

Then they asked me to win the title. I told them we'd be lucky not to be expelled after our first match and to be charged with fraud. Eventually we finished without scoring a goal or even forcing a single corner and were relegated four divisions down. And that's what those idiots deserve.

Croatia for the final

From page one

Kit Greechan is the only Ajax player struggling to be fit in time for Sunday's match. Greechan was carried off on a stretcher two weeks ago in the Dockerty Cup quarter-final clash against Albion Rovers. Greechan suffered a deep gash in his right shin which required 17 stitches. The stitches were removed on Monday.

How curious a phenomenon is this semi-final draw. Who would have thought that Ajax and Croatia, supposedly the biggest drawcards of the four semi-finalists, wouldn't be drawn against each other on Sunday?

I've removed my tongue from my cheek in time to tell you that Croydon coach Bill McArthur told me almost a week before the semi-final draw was made that his side,

Weekend matches:
ARMSTRONG CUP semi-finals: Richmond v HELLAS; HAKAOH v Green Gully Reserve, St Albans, from 3.30 pm on Saturday.
AMATEUR LEAGUE CUP FINAL: Diamond Creek v POSTEL INSTITUTE at Heidelberg-Bundeena Ground, Sunday 3 pm.
VICTORIAN AMATEUR LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME: Amateur League Representative XI v Sandigo Amateur League at Sandigo Sports Ground, 3 pm, Saturday.

would be playing either Ajax or Croatia.

As each year goes by the credibility of a supposedly open cup draw diminishes rapidly. What is the Dockerty Cup all about? It's in promotional exercise for the VSF? A meek attempt to show that Victorian soccer, in terms of crowd pulling power, is alive and well?

Anyway, Ajax and Croatia haven't pulled crowds of even 2,500 on a regular basis this season. Juventus squares up to

Croatia, the second confrontation faced by Juventus players in the past fortnight. The first was faced last Thursday when the Juventus players got together with committed refugees and found out whether or not they would be paid money owed to them. The players were assured that their contracts would be paid up.

The following day, Friday, the players flew to Tasmania for a "lost weekend". Coach Tony Boggia assures me that his players will have recovered sufficiently by Sunday to give Croatia a hell of a game.

Fabio Incantalupo won't be playing for Juventus. He's due to leave for Mexico this Monday with the Sociedad Youth team to compete in the Holland Cup trophy. The Sociedad youth team bosses aren't keen to allow Incantalupo to risk injury by playing against Croatia. I'm tipping Croatia, which almost ensures that Juventus will put up a great performance.

So if my tips are right, the VSF should get the Dockerty Cup Final it wants — Ajax v Croatia. Selections:

TIM WHITE
Ajax
Juventus

BILL VOJTEK
Croydon
Croatia

LAURIE SCHWAB
Ajax
Juventus

LES SHORROCK
Ajax
Croatia

CRAIG MACKENZIE
Ajax
Croatia

Double to Hillmen

Box Hill completed a successful season when it added the prestigious Victorian Metropolitan League Cup to its second placed finish in First Division and promotion to State League.



Box Hill striker
Paul Priestley

The Hillmen never were extended by Second Division rival Dandenong City and ran out convincing 3-1 winners with goals from Scott Patterson (2), Ray Taylor (2) and Paul Priestley. Dandenong's sole reply came from Donnelly.

Box Hill's best were Pedro Ramos, Taylor and Ian Roodhouse. Dandenong's best were Bell, Steve Gadsby and Chris Valli.

JADRAN

TRAVEL SERVICE

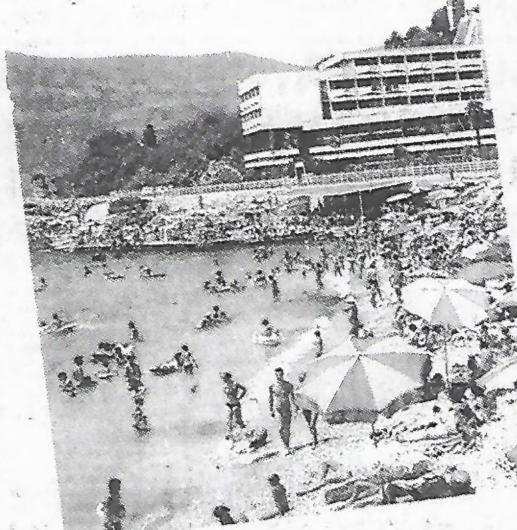
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CROATIA 1 ST GEORGE 3

Scorers: Woods (C), Marston, Koussas, Kortar (SG).
CROATIA: Watson, Woods, Tomasic, Basic (Staray 46), Vidic, Coleman, Razza (Ceyne), Sevor, Carrizo (Pagan), Kovacic (Galic 46), Hensman.

ST GEORGE: Greedy, Skeen, R. O'Shea, Barton (Kozic 25), Zeras, M. O'Shea, Kortar, Wilkinson, Kouvassas, J. O'Shea, Marston.

St George, minus Peter Stone, David Ratcliffe and Robbie Slater, but with Koussas and Ziras on loan from Sydney Olympic, found the going at King Tomislav Park easy, winning the NSW "State" title by beating Croatia 3-1.

Saints took little time in asserting their superiority and went 1-0 up against the wind after 16 minutes. Marian Kovacic failed to clear on the edge of the penalty area and Dez Marston pounced to score.

Lajos Kortar and Robert O'Shea could have increased the lead before Koussas and Ziras found the second touch of the ball in this half. David Skeen found Paul Wilkinson on the right wing. His cross led to a superb volley by Koussas and St George skipped to a 2-0 lead.

Brett Woods came close to scoring midway during the first half, after receiving a pass from Rezo but his shot went inches wide. However, after 37 minutes, a good move by Carrizo and Kovacic saw the latter tripped by Kortar and from the resultant penalty Woods made it 2-1.

Presentations for Polonia

Polonia will hold its presentation night on Friday, October 22, at 501 Receptions, 501 Barkly Street, Footscray.

The night kicks off at 7 pm and finishes around 2 am.

Tickets cost \$20 a head which includes a three course meal, beer and soft drinks.

All Polonia supporters are welcome and they can arrange for tickets by contacting one of the three following people:

Mrs V. Leszkowicz on 379 4107; Mr T. Ekselman on 67 6353; or Mr M. Zuk on 314 3565.



Cosmos goal ace Georgio Chinaglia presents the 1982 JLMC under-12 Cup to Melbourne Croatia captain F. Valente. Croatia defeated Lelor United 2-1 in an entertaining final.

JUNIOR FINALS

Box Hill and Ardeer won their semi-finals on Saturday and will clash in the final of the Ampol Junior Cup, the curtain raiser to the senior Ampol Cup final early next year.

Box Hill beat Ringwood United 2-0 while Ardeer drew 1-1 with Lelor after extra time and clinched a place in the finals of the Central Region Cups will be staged.

South Melbourne Hellas and East Bentleigh clash in the under-11 final at 10.30 am. They are playing for the McDonald's of Cheltenham Trophy.

Caulfield and South Melbourne Hellas B meet at 12 noon in the under-12 final to decide the winner of the Neon Printers Trophy.

The under-13 final between Brighton and Malvern City kicks off at 2 pm. The winner will claim the Tramways Sporting Association Cup.

Sandringham City and South Melbourne Hellas meet in the under-14 final at 3.30 pm for the Bear Factory Cup.

Video games get Pele's magic touch

From
MERRILL BROWN
in New York

The name on the business is Edson Arantes Do Nascimento, and it's opening doors for Warner Communications all over the world.

Edsen — known as Pele to his millions of fans, though he prefers his given name in private conversation — appears to have transferred his remarkable charisma from the soccer field to the business arena as a worldwide promoter of Atari Inc., Warner's computer and video games subsidiary.

He has become a bigger draw for Warner than he was during his playing days, when the company lured him from Brazil for about \$4 million to compete for the New York Cosmos.

According to Warner assistant vice-president Jonas Halperin, Pele's six-nation 1982 European tour for the \$3.2 billion company, cost \$50,000 to \$80,000. But it brought Warner almost immediate sales of \$30 million in its electronics games business. Dinner with Pele, for instance, convinced one major European retailer, who had declined Warner's earlier advances, to stock Atari products.

In London the police were called in to control a crowd of 5,000 people in a department store promotional event, and in Spain Pele's television commercials for Warner are now a major part of a company blitz.

Pele's continuing success was reflected by his recently being named Sportsman of the Century by *L'Equipe* magazine of Paris, which based its award on a poll of 20 newspapers around the world.

"People seem almost automatically drawn to him," said an aide.

"Sometimes on his travels you'd think it was the Beatles in the 1960s."

Pele's success for Warner is a unique story in the history of sports business promotion. It is also the story of a sports hero's efforts to overcome the difficulties most superstars encounter adjusting to the end of their athletic careers.

"My father was a soccer player who got hurt," said Pele recently in his Rockefeller Center office. "He lost everything, so at 14, I started to think of my future."

He talks sadly of the tales of renowned athletes like Muhammed Ali and their struggles to accept the loss of the abilities and the end of their careers. "I feel sad for him," Pele said of Ali, suggesting that Pele hopes he'll die sooner before his skills completely passed with age. "He should have stopped four years before his last flight."

Pele, still trim and nimble at 41, already is a very wealthy man. He is said, despite some bad investments in Brazil, to be worth at least \$10 million.

"I have everything. I could stop working now. Life is not only material things. My first and only real goal is to provide for my children," said Pele, who is divorced.

His relationship with Warner also demonstrates the value of a sports superstar to a corporation owning a football club. For an initial purchase price of \$25,000 in 1972 and the acquisition of Pele three years later, Warner has managed to use the team to promote its corporate image overseas.

"As Pele and the team began to travel, the company has become more and more familiar in circles in which we are interested," Halperin said. "But the integration of the Cosmos into our overall plans began with Pele coming to this country."

Pele brought his soccer magic to the team, leading it to North American soccer league titles, large crowds wherever it played, and a certain amount of fame in its own right.

But his three seasons with the Cosmos were also expected to lift the game into the mainstream of the nation's professional spectator sports. NASL commissioners Phil Woosnam told reports in 1975 that Pele's signing "will greatly accelerate our move toward credibility." Although interest in the sport has increased on school playgrounds, the league is in no better shape today than it was seven years ago.

But Pele's fame continues to be a magnet, partic-



Pele with former Socceroo captain Johnny Warren and two young Australian visitors to the Polo Soccer Camps — Ben Divani (left) and Ian Vaughan.

ularly abroad, for Warner, with which he recently signed a five-year extension of the original five-year contract he signed with the firm when he ended three years on the field with the Cosmos. He now receives a six-figure salary, company spokesmen say.

"If we could list him on our annual report as an asset, it would be meaningful and significant," Halperin said. "He has truly been important in identifying our company and its products wherever he has gone."

At times, Pele's magic and his ability to draw large crowds, especially children, frightens the former athlete.

"Pele can't make mistakes. Edson is a real person. That's the difference between Pele and Edson," he said in his interview but in broken English.

He often uses the third person when talking about his soccer days, reminiscing distantly about a child who doctors said would die but lived an extra day to meet Pele, his hero.

"He tends to separate what is Pele and what is Edson," said Suzanne Leggett, his assistant. "It's not that he doesn't want to be Pele anymore. It is part of him and he would miss it. But he wants to live the life of a normal person."

While discussing his dual identity, however, he recalls how fighting between Nigeria and Biafra more than a decade ago was brought to a halt when Pele's Brazilian team arrived so the two sides could see Pele play. "Sometimes I just don't understand it," he admits as he talks of the public recognition he receives.

In his new world of business, Pele spends six months in the United States and six months in Brazil, splitting his New York time between a midtown Manhattan apartment and a Long Island beach house.

His business card is a small, flat, two-sided soccer ball, with one side identifying him with a 12-employee company that manages his interests in Brazil, while the other calls him a Warner Communications International Consultant and Adviser.

Pele is still learning the world of the communications, electronics and consumer-products company, though he said he would love someday to bring cable television — an industry in which Warner's venture with American Express Co. has become the sixth-largest cable operator in the United States — to his native country.

He juggles a busy Warner schedule with his other business interests, such as a Santa Monica radio station and Cafe Puma, which he bought there by a Brazilia company that he dreams of bringing to New York. (He admits that he lost a lot of his money in a disastrously run type company back home.)

His name also is tied to a line of athletic shoes and bags for Puma, he recently appeared in his first film, and he is doing World Cup television commentary.

But Warner, he said, is his principal work in the United States, and it is his feeling for people that seems to make the Warner projects work, particularly those like the video games that appeal to children.

"I don't feel like a businessman," he said sheepishly. "My feeling is not for that. I have people who help me. I work too much with my heart."

SCOTLAND, AUSTRIA IN WINNING FORM

Second-half goals by John Wark and Paul Sturrock carried Scotland to an emphatic 2-0 victory over East Germany in the European Championship Group One match in Glasgow.

The result was a triumph for the Scots' patience and perseverance after they had pegged away at the East German defence for nearly an hour without success.

They finally broke through after 54 minutes when John Robertson floated over another telling cross and Wark's header skinned over the line after slipping from goalkeeper Rudwaleit's grasp.

Sturrock scored his goal in the 75th minute shortly after being brought on in place of Alan Brazil. Once again Robertson provided the cross and Sturrock glanced the ball home from the left flank.

In Dublin, Frank Stapleton put his disappointing club from behind him to score a vital goal for Ireland in their 2-0 European Championship Group Seven qualifying tie victory over Iceland.

The Manchester United striker, with only two goals to his credit in his last 31 appearances for United, broke the deadlock in the 35th minute.

Liverpool's Ronnie Whelan, playing in only his second full international, set up the chance with a superb defence-splitting through ball and Stapleton made no mistake.

Iceland recently threatened up front but proved unex-

pectedly resilient in some of its World Cup qualifying ties last year and the Irish must have been relieved when skipper Tony Greasham gave them breathing space with a second in the 73rd minute.

He won to Ireland into second place in the group table, a point behind the Netherlands who beat them 2-1 in a championship tie last month. Iceland has collected only one point from three matches.

European championship details:

In Glasgow Scotland beat East Germany 2-0 (half time 0-0) in a Group One match.

Scorers: Wark (54 mins), Sturrock (75). Attendance: 40,355.

Group One standings:

Belgium.....	1	1	0	0	3	0	2
Scotland.....	1	1	0	0	2	0	2
East Germany.....	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Switzerland.....	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

Next match: Nov 11, Switzerland v Scotland.

In Dublin Ireland beat Iceland 2-0 (half time 1-0) in a Group Seven match.

Scorers: Stapleton (35 mins), Greasham (73). Attendance: 20,000.

In Moscow the Soviet Union beat Finland 2-0 (half time 1-0) in a Group Two.

Scorers: Balashov (2 mins), Andreyev (65).

In Vienna Austria beat Northern Ireland 2-0 (half time 2-0) in a Group Six match.

Scorers: Schachner (3rd and 39th mins). Attendance: 11,500.



Morena passes

600 goals

Uruguay International striker Fernando Morena scored his 603rd goal as champions Penarol beat their traditional rivals, Nacional, 1-0, to continue as leaders in the First Division.

A few days earlier, Morena had passed the 600 mark when he scored twice in Penarol's 3-0 Libertadores Cup win over Uruguayan neighbours Defensor, but Spain's Valencia had by then already teed off the Uruguayan champions telling them not to line-up Morena until we paid a pending transfer debt of \$455,000 dollars for him.

If Penarol — the country's richest club together with Nacional — cannot pay, it is nothing in comparison to the financial chaos the rest of the clubs are in. They have been unable to pay to their players for some time and this situation threatens to suspend the championship. The clubs have been refused government help because of their bad administration and they now want to see football pools introduced for the benefit of clubs.

Nacional's Brazilian striker, Milton Da Cruz, tops the scorers table with 10 goals, followed by Morena with eight.

George Best to join Reading?

George Best, the Irish star who makes as many headlines off the field as on, may be returning to British football ... again.

Best is reportedly interested in signing for English third division club Reading, a far cry from his glammour days with Manchester United.

But Best — currently playing in Hong Kong — is not interested in a long contract, Reading manager Maurice Evans said.

"We have agreed to meet again when Best gets back to this country and we will see what happens then," said Evans.

Reading is currently the centre of a takeover bid by at least three groups, and is second from the bottom of division three.

\$450,000 LURES TELE SANTANA

Tele Santana confirmed reports that had been circulating for the past two months when announcing that he is stepping down as coach of the Brazilian national team upon completion of his contract in December in order to take up a post with El Ahli of Jeddah.

Santana will be remembered with gratitude by the soccer world for his role in restoring Brazil's tradition of exhilarating style; only to be robbed of ultimate Mundial glory by three moments of defensive madness or three moments of Rossi magic, depending upon your viewpoint.

El Ahli is reported to be paying \$450,000 a year for the coach's services.

Ironically, his successor may well be travelling in the opposite direction — moving from the Middle East to South America.

Among the favorites for the CBF job are Carlos Alberto Parreira and Evaristo Maceo, currently in charge of Kuwait and Qatar respectively.

Flamengo's Paulo Cesar Carpegiani is regarded as the main challenger to the Arabian-exiled pain.

— PAUL MOON

Greeks warn thugs

of jail terms

Britain's soccer hooligans have been given a stark warning by Greek officials: "Cause trouble at the England-Greece match next month and you face a three-month jail sentence."

The Greek government, according to the *Sun* newspaper, has decided England's infamous soccer fans will not get away with trouble-making.

A Greek government official said: "In other European countries, British hooligans have got off quite lightly."

"It won't be the case here (Athens)."

Under Greek law any form of "insolent behaviour" carries a jail sentence of three months with no possibility of appeal.

The Greek warning follows trouble at England's last game on the continent when Danish police grappled with the English supporters.

**SOCCE A
Masny,
join to**

Olympiakos, now coached by former Greek national coach Alketes Panagoulias, have picked up 32-year-old Czechoslovakian star half-back Marian Masny for an unannounced sum. The league champions also purchased Nikos Argiroulis, a 12-year veteran at Larisa for 3.2 million drachmas and Greek international full-back from PAOK, Giannis Gounaris.

Panathinaikos continue to play ducks and drakes with their players and their rich owners, the Vardionis brothers, continue to spend, spend.

Since the oil and shipping tycoons took over the team in 1979, Panathinaikos have purchased more than 40 players (12 foreigners) and has been through six managers. Only half the players purchased are now with the team.

The club has spent some 500 million drachmas on personnel. Yet all that money and all that talent did not bring positive results until last season when Panathinaikos won the cup.

So far this summer, Panathinaikos have spent 100 million drachmas on Tsheu La Ling from Ajax of Holland, Greek international backs Giannis Dantas and Eikas Berios form Apollon, two stars from Kastoria, goalkeeper Antonis Minou and half-back Argiris Paspasiliou, and four top-notch amateur players.

"I came to Panathinaikos thanks to Stefan Kovacs," said La Ling, who was purchased for 23 million drachmas. I respect him as a person and a manager. My new team will have no regrets that chose me. I will do well regardless of what position I play."

PAOK, who met France's Sochaux in the UEFA Cup, have purchased 29-year-old sweeper Holger Trimbolt from Eintracht Brunswick and 21-year-old Rhodes star Giorgos Skartados.

Other interesting signings: Aris picked up Hungarian international goalie Sandor Gontar; Doxa got 28-year-old Bulgarian star half-back Lenits Barzov; OFI signed Romanian forward Nitoro Nikolai and Peruvian Juan Ore while Ermakondikos bought Rumina's half-back Sougarini.

Ermakondikos are in the first division for the first time ever and hope to improve on their attendance figures of last season. In 19 home matches, only 32,577 tickets were sold, with only 9,930 in the second half of the season. The biggest 'draw' was 3,731 for Anagnos Epanomi.

In general, attendances in the First Division last season were 5.4 per cent lower than the previous campaign. In fact, only six of the 18 clubs finished the season in profit. In all 2,502,338 fans attended the 306 matches (avg. 8,177). The previous season's total was 2,636,138 (8,614) while the 1979-1980 figure was 2,889,331 (9,471).

Panathinaikos fans had something to cheer about when two goals by Grigoris Haralambidis, last year's league leading scorer lifted Panathinaikos to a 2-1 decision over Aris.

"Aris belong among the big teams and aim to reach the top this season," said manager Antonis Georgiadis. "We did not have many new signings and will rely on basically the same team as last year."

Ethnikos, like Olympiakos, will be out of a stadium for the first half of the season. They also use Karaiskaki as their home grounds. So for the first half of the season they will be using second division Aegaleo's stadium.

The new manager of Ethnikos this season is ex-Bristol City boss Alan Dicks. He said: "It is still too early to say anything about my new team. The players show a lot of effort. I came to Greece to work. My efforts will show on the pitch and I just hope all goes well."

A 1-0 pre-season defeat by Aegaleo had Aris blown fans worried, as well as the loss to Panathinaikos of two national team full-backs.

"I know a lot of fans have written us off already. Many believe we will be relegated. But I believe that Aris will finish among the first six," said star player George Kastanos.

Olympiakos were first with 370,682 fans (avg. 21,804) the past season at home, a drop of 48,107 from the previous campaign. The lowest figure was that of Kavala with 50,343 all season (2,961).

Only three teams had an increase of attendance over the previous season, Panathinaikos with 329,071 (avg. 19,327) — total (62,964 over previous season). OFI and Yiannena.

New Maltese

SLIEMA Wanderers have collected the son, the newly-sponsored 'Euro Challenge' and the three local participants in European ci

Sliema drew 0-0 with the young Zurrieq side and then won with a goal, netted by central defender Oliver Losco.

Sliema goalkeeper Alan Zammit putting on a splendid show of amazing saves ... including one from Joe Curmi's

As Zurrieq could only draw 1-1 with Hibernians, Sliema won points, while Hibernians finished with only one point.

Zurrieq then went on to make a piece of Maltese footy of Yugoslavia in the superb new, turf-pitch, national Ta Qal

ROUND THE WORLD

Tsheu La Ling
p Greek clubs

Tsheu La Ling (left) — transferred from Ajax to Panathinaikos.



Goalkeeper Vassilis Konstantinou of Greece.

Simonsen switch

Childhood memories were a major factor in the sensational transfer of Allan Simonsen from mighty Barcelona to humble Charlton Athletic.

Simonsen's schoolboy Hans Jeppson, who has an international record, played for the South London club in the early 1950s, before moving to Italy and achieving greater glory with Atlanta, Napoli and Torino.

Consequently, the youngster who was to become Europe's footballer of the Year in 1977, has an affinity for the club, which had not been previously revealed.

The acquisition of the wily and still pacey winger presents a remarkable coup for Charlton, which lost services of manager Alan Mullery in June because it considered the club unambitious!

Simonsen, reputed to be earning \$6,000 a week at Te Valley, sought a move from Barcelona after it was discovered that he had been playing for the club, which had not been previously revealed.

Hopefully, the great Dane will soon be playing alongside the other overseas player on Charlton's books — Australian Paul Kay.

— PAUL MOON

up to Sliema

at Maltese football honour this season — the trophy being contested by petitions.

ed, surprisingly, to beat champions Hibernians 1-0 to thwart the desperate Hibernians forwards with a placed penalty kick.

the overall winners. Zurriguel finishing second on two

story — playing UEFA Cup hosts to Hajduk Split

Germany beats England, Pfaff joins Bayern

European Footballer of the Year Karl-Heinz Rummenigge again proved West Germany's ace match winner as he struck two chilling blows to beat England 2-1 in a friendly International in London last week.

The night skies opened and the rain poured down to add to the grief of English fans after the blind West German sharp-shooter netted in the 73rd minute.

Nine minutes later, with another piece of opportunism inside the box, he rifled a second and England looked in danger of drowning.

Tony Woodcock, one of three substitutes brought on by England manager Bobby Robson 10 minutes from the final whistle, pulled one back with five minutes left. But it was not enough to save England from defeat in their first match at Wembley under Rossen.

Rummenigge, the arch-assassin, was abetted in his destruction of England by stealthy little winger Pierre Littbarski, who came on as substitute 20 minutes into the second half.

The Germans have a fine recent record against England spanning 14 years. In the last eight matches they lost only once (at Wembley in 1975) but beat England five times and drew twice.

Meanwhile Paul Breitner has quit the national team for the second time. He previously broke off his international career between 1975 and 1981.

He recently made an unusual financial coup. For \$80,000 he let himself be publicly shaved. For the widely publicised removal of his famous beard a well-known manufacturer of after-shave lotion paid Breitner what must be the world record fee for a barbers' service.

Coach Jupp Derwall may try to build a new side around the fit again Bernd Schuster, who expressed the wish to play again for the national side though there may be problems getting his release for all internationals from CE Barcelona. Possibly sensing that Breitner is no longer the mouth piece of the side and clearly on the way out, the blond prodigy may feel that his time has come at last.

Derwall's assistant Erich Ribbeck (45) was released from his duties. There was apparently disagreement between the two experienced "Trainers" on matters of training schedules, tactics and selection in Spain. Now, Ribbeck has been put in charge of West Germany's Olympic squad preparing for the 1984 games in Los Angeles.

Bert Vogts, who is in charge of the "Under-21" team, seems the natural successor as Derwall's right hand man, but the DFB will wait a while before making a final decision.

Fears that the national team's World Cup yoyo and other controversies would affect the gates in the Bundesliga, proved unfounded. On the first day of the championship the fans flocked in increased numbers to see their club teams.

The nine matches drew aggregate crowds of 270,000 — for an average of 30,000 per game. Last season the average was only 21,000 on the first day.

The main reason is probably the return to the upper sphere of such popular clubs like Schalke and Hertha. Schalke in fact drew against Borussia Monchengladbach 69,000 fans — best of the day (receipts \$400,000). Hertha's gate against Borussia Dortmund was nearly 40,000 in Berlin's Olympic stadium and that on a Tuesday night.

Borussia Dortmund sold their Czech-born midfielder Votava to Atletico Madrid for \$600,000. Votava whose parents defected from Czechoslovakia and who now has a German passport has in fact played five full internationals for his adopted country. He recently became a naturalised German.

Championship favourites are Bayern Munich who strengthened their side with the signing of Wolfgang Grobe a new "libero" from Eintracht Brunswick cost \$500,000. Belgium's Pfaff from SK Beveren was \$450,000; fullback Bernd Martin from VfB Stuttgart \$150,000; and Norbert Nachweh, a midfielder from Eintracht Frankfurt the most expensive at \$750,000.

Liberio Grobe is the sixth the club has tried in this position once occupied so splendidly by Franz Beckenbauer.

George Schwarzenbeck, Wolfgang Rausch, Hans Weiner, Kurt Niedermayer and Bertram Bellerorzer all tried successfully to make this crucial position their own. Grobe at least can lean on the international Wolfgang Dremmler, with whom he played together in Brunswick.



Pierre Littbarski

Hong Kong's Box Hill link

By LYNNE PATTERSON

High on the priority list of any soccer player or supporter on holiday in Hong Kong is a visit to the Hong Kong Soccer Club.

The amateur club in Sports Road, Happy Valley, has an incredible amount of facilities to offer its hundreds of members and visitors from Australia are welcome to call in and enjoy a glass of hospitality and a first-class meal.

The club will be 100 years-old in four years.

It is located next to the Happy Valley racecourse and a well-established cricket club.

Facilities at present include soccer, hockey and rugby, lawn bowls and squash.

This year, \$4 million (Hong Kong) is to be spent on renovations.

Two grandstands will be pulled down, the pitch moved 30 yards and a new clubroom area will be built, along with indoor tennis courts and an area for indoor five-a-side competition.

No bad going for an amateur club.

Coach during 1980-81, Norman Voss, is a former Box Hill, Victoria, player.

He is now eligible for the club's "senior" team which consists of British players over the age of 35.

Norman said the club provided a pleasant club life for men and women, some joining just to use a particular facility such as the bowling greens.

Not far from the club is Rumours, a cosy bar run by former Scottish International Billie Semple.

It too is frequented by many of Hong Kong's British footballing community.

The football season has just started in Hong Kong and goes through to March.

There are a number of professional teams sporting British players of note who are heading towards the end of their careers and picking up large sums of money to play in Hong Kong.

Voss said the Chinese teams in the professional league had many excellent players who certainly could get a game in top English sides but prefer to stay in Hong Kong.

He said the HK professional league was about English Third Division standard.

The sport is extremely popular in Hong Kong and attracts large crowds.

A number of pitches are set out in the well-grassed area inside the running track at the Happy Valley Racecourse.

Races are held midweek, soccer on Saturdays.

These pitches are used by several of the professional teams.

If you visit Hong Kong, you'll find the club's phone number and address listed in the tourist guide given to all visitors.

Quite a lot of the Hong Kong football club players have played in Australian teams and taken an interest in the fortunes of Phillips and State league sides.



The soccer pitches in the middle of the Happy Valley racecourse are used by a number of clubs. Space is at a premium on Hong Kong island.

INSET: Former Box Hill player, Norm Voss, coach of the Hong Kong football club in 1980-81.

Chumpitaz holds record

THE recent World Cup final has prompted renewed interest in those venerable internationals who can claim 100 or more appearances for their country.



Hector Chumpitaz

Italy's Dino Zoff and Poland's Grzegorz Lato both topped three figures during the finals and a glance at the up-to-date list of centenarians reveals a heavy weighting in favour of stars of recent years.

The reason is obvious. The World Cup and European championship arrangements now provide for a much more busy international programme than in past eras.

Not all figures claimed are worth including. Peru's Hector Chumpitaz has been listed at more than 140 internationals between 1969 and 1981. However the figure of 127 appears the more likely.

Similarly the Brazilian figures of 100 caps for Gilmar, Djalma Santos and Jairzinho are questionable.

Jairzinho was supposed to have made his 100th appearance for Brazil against Czechoslovakia early this year — but that was far from being his 100th full international.

Pele is often listed with 111 internationals to his name. In fact, though he appeared in the Brazil team that many times, 17 matches were against club or state sides. Pele's full international figure is thus 96.

This, then, is the list as it stands now (questionable figures marked thus):

Hector Chumpitaz	Peru	127*
Bjorn Nordqvist	Sweden	115
Roberto Rivellino	Brazil	108
Bobby Moore	England	108
Bobby Charlton	England	106
Dino Zoff	Italy	106
Billy Wright	England	105
Leonel Sanchez	Chile	104*
Torbjorn Svensson	Norway	104
Franz Beckenbauer	W. Germany	103
Grzegorz Lato	Poland	103
Kazimierz Deyna	Poland	102
Brian Turner	New Zealand	101*
Jozef Boszaki	Hungary	100
Gilmor	Brazil	100*
D. Santos	Brazil	100*

They helped

Knox City has many businesses to thank for supporting the benefit game, none more so than Barry Shorter Sports Store of Ferntree Gully.

Stamford Hotel provided magnums of champagne and sold raffle tickets, East-coast Amusements provided a Space Invaders machine for a major raffle at the club rooms next Sunday.

Baywater Continental Butchers supplied food free to the club on the day of the game and other sponsors were:

Hans van Egmond, Coolwyn Nurseries, J.N.I. Moore, L.N.S. Westgate, Valvoline Oils, Hank Gibcus, Buffalo Sports and Gleeson and Tonta.



Joe Tront of Wilhelmina



Rob Nelson



Ian McNeil

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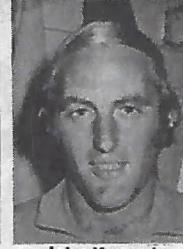
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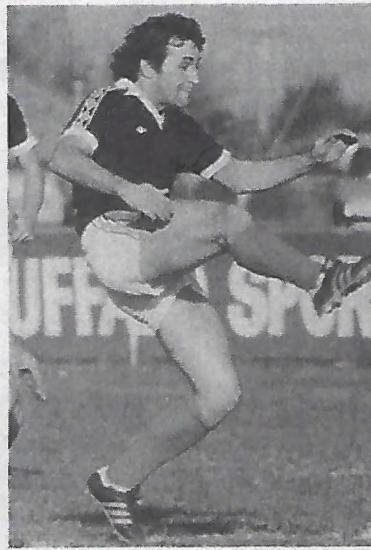
The new memorial trophy named after Richard Holwell and Barry Green. The ball is autographed by the players of Liverpool.



Danny Lacock



John Kennedy



Bennie Ferrie of Albion Rovers



Peter Ollerton



Les Thomson

Stars turn out at Knox to honor Richard Holwell

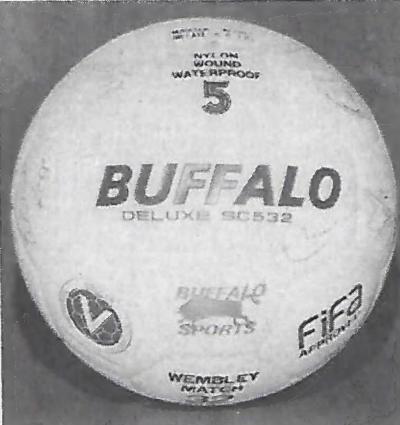
KNOX CITY 1 ALBION ROVERS 0, benefit match at Egan Lee Reserve, Knox.

KNOX CITY: squad: Kennedy, House, McNeil, Smith, Schroeder, Bissinger, Thomson, Lee, Pete, Gerriah, Crompton, Myszka, Tront, Ollerton, D. Nelson, R. Nelson. **ALBION ROVERS:** squad: Lacock, Cutler, Nesbit, A. McMillan, Creaney, Hislop, Ferrie, Murphy, Reilly, McMorrow, Smart, Dziedzic.

Star players from various clubs joined Knox City and Albion Rovers in staging a benefit match for the family of junior player Richard Holwell who died in a car accident two weeks ago.

Barry Green of South Australian club Salisbury United, also died in the accident.

Both played in the under 12 age group, and



Joe Tront had this ball autographed by the players of the New York Cosmos. It will be raffled on Sunday

Barry was on a visit to Melbourne for matches between Salisbury and Knox.

The benefit match, at Egan Lee Reserve last Saturday, contributed heavily to a total of more than \$1000 raised for the families of the two boys.

Local businesses also got behind the fund-raising drive. They are listed in the accompanying panel.

Notable guest players in the match were Joe Tront (Wilhelmina), former Soccer striker Peter Ollerton, now player-coach of Preston-Makedonia, and three

from Sunshine City — Norrie Pete and the Nelson brothers, Rob and Dave.

Joe Tront has a soccer ball autographed by all the players of the visiting New York Cosmos. The ball will be raffled next Sunday at the Knox City club-rooms at Egan Lee Reserve.

Knox City has struck a memorial trophy named after Richard Holwell and Barry Green. It is made up of a mounted soccer ball signed by all the Liverpool players who took part in the European Cup final last year.

Bumper raffle on Sunday

Knox City will run a fund-raising raffle at the club-rooms at Egan Lee Reserve on Sunday at 2 pm.

Prizes are: 1st and 2nd, a Space Invaders machine or soccer ball autographed by the Cosmos players.

Other prizes will be: bottles of whisky, magnums of champagne, jackets and hats, plants, and sports goods.

The ball has been donated by "The Yank" and Vince Schofield and will be presented as a perpetual trophy to the best and fairest Knox City under 12 player from 1983 onwards.

The benefit match was attended by about 300 people despite teeming rain. The Knox juniors played a curtain-raiser and there was also a fund-raising auction of goods supplied by sponsors.

The fund-raising was co-ordinated by Knox official Tony Kennedy.

Knox City will travel to Adelaide on Saturday next to play a benefit match for the family of Barry Green. Salisbury United will also organise other fund-raising activities around the match.

Richard Holwell, son of Gary and Nola Holwell, had been with Knox for only 12 months.

He had earlier been playing with Mooroolbark.

At Knox he came under the wing of coach Ron Turonovic and his play benefited to such an extent that Richard

became top scorer of the under 12s.

Richard was an all-round sportsman, involved also in cricket, tennis, table tennis, boy scouts and many other activities.

Scores and scores of mourners attended the funeral last Wednesday. As a gesture to Richard's love of soccer, his Knox City jumper was draped over the coffin.

The tragedy drew Knox City's senior and junior sections closely together and there could be no greater tribute to young Richard than if they could continue to work together in this way for the overall good of the club and soccer.

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Victorian Metro League voting

Referee votes for Victorian best player awards:

ALTONA CITY: H. Mercer 17; H. Vanderpoel 9; B. Hamill 7; S. Jones 7; R. Hands 7; N. Little 5; J. Webb 3; L. Ranca 3; M. Kearney 3; J. Vohar 2; J. Leonard 2; K. Prior 2; W. Hamill 2; B. Smith 1; S. O'Boyle 1; M. Vanderpoel 1.

ALTONA GATE: M. Micevski 21; J. Serovski 14; C. Preslowski 6; C. Talevski 6; D. Acevski 5; V. Kotevski 4; J. Derunovski 3; S. Schirripa 3; G. Skocis 3; V. Velimirovski 3; V. Amatovski 3; V. Bozinozski 2; B. Bojkovic 2; S. Dimovski 1.

BELL PARK: D. Oretz 21; L. Skuzka 12; P. Harman 10; J. Thompson 5; J. McCarthy 4; G. Smiljevic 4; S. Radojevic 3; G. McKenna 2; J. Scholten 2; A. Wark 2.

BOX HILL: D. Lawler 10; P. Ramos 17; S. Paterson 15; R. Townie 15; D. Brownlie 10; P. Vererchia 9; P. Priestley 6; G. McLeod 4; R. Taylor 4; I. Roodhouse 3; A. Roodhouse 2; M. Valentine 1.

DONCASTER ROVERS:

D. Gow 17; A. Copeland 11; S. Berardini 10; R. Forsyth 9; I. Humble 8; G. Sullivan 7; M. Tsambokis 5; T. Teer 4; K. Hall 4; M. Haupt 2.

FAWKNER: A. Schipano 18; L. Gooney 18; B. Sabadussi 16; I. Tuffield 15; C. Fattore 10; R. Terzini 7; E. Anselmo 7; A. Bozikas 7; C. Petrov 6; R. Curcija 3; A. Mainent 2; C. Sabadussi 2.

FRANKSTON PINES: M. McGowan 14; D. Luca 13; S. Murray 10; B. Freeman 10; J. Culhane 9; J. Stutzbach 7; C. Malcolm 3* T. Hargrave 3; B. Paulding 3; C. Miller 3; G. Edmondson 2; P. Luca 1; T. O'Halloran 5.

KEILOR AUSTRIA: G. Ganglmaier 16; A. Smale 13; T. Latif 12; D. Barron 5; R. Beller 4; I. Dimitrijevski 4; K. Wilson 4; B. Gelevski 3; P. Scarlett 3; B. Vita 2; M. Sammuri 2; J. Lopez 2; J. Grbac 1.

KEW CITY: D. Stuart 10;

D. McCloskey 9; P. McElhinney 8; R. Parsons 6; G. Petrov 5; M. Lukac 5; G. Williams 5; D. West 4; T. Hargrave 3; P. McCarthy 2; G. McLeod 2; C. Ogden 2; M. Lynn 1; H. Lyness 1.

KNOX CITY: D. Smith 21;

S. Smith 6; L. Thompson 5;

D. Dixon 4; J. Kennedy 4; N.

Murray 3; D. Roddis 3; G.

House 3; I. McNeil 3; M.

Wild 3; P. Schroder 3; E.

Lesbirek 2; J. Gerish 2; G.

House 1.

MORELAND: P. Gasperino 16; M. Tronsdale 12;

A. Hamill 11; P. Constantine 10; A. Lee 9; P.

Oates 9; P. Vassilios 3; R.

Nadolny 3; C. Toussaint 2;

M. Waters 2; G. Dorward 2;

S. Monghan 1; C. Kelly 1.

PRAHAN SLAVIA: R.

Hammond 9; V. Bouzias 8; B.

D. Kirby 8; C. Quigley 6;

G. Williams 5; S. Williams 5;

J. Leiva 2; H. Flores 2; J. Anderson 1; G. Flores 1; L. Elgueta 1; F. Ortiz 1; B. Baez 1; I. Machuca 1.

RICHMOND: G. Groenewald 2; T. Brewerton 17;

W. Groenewald 11; A.

Strawbridge 5; J. Klas 13;

Dressler 3; D. Beer 3; C.

Welland 3; N. Skinner 2; M.

Papanicolou 2; B. Young 2;

M. Rutman 2.

WESTERN SUBURBS: D.

Kyriakis 14; S. Moore 13;

W. Vojtek 13. A. Segi 6; E.

Kupinis 6; W. Johnston 5; M.

Leekas 4; S. Gilmore 4; G.

Lekkas 4; A. Mitridas 3; G.

Borg 3; H. Howie 3; M.

Strangos 2; S. Matheou 2; S.

Dimovski 1.

DIVISION TWO

ADREER: M. Olinowski 20; J. Saliba 11; N. Christoudios 7; H. Czerniecki 6; A.

Obrembski 4; G. Gummanski 4; F. Benedetto 3; H.



Kew City's Mike Lynn (left) and Tony Schipano of Fawkner.



Jim Armstrong



Donovan Lawler



Mike Olinowski

FOOTSCRAY JUST:

Stojcevski 9; Bellic 6; Vasic 6; Petrov 6; Stolfa 2; G. Darch 2; P. Wisniewski 1.

BROADMEADOWS:

CITY: Vizzini 17; Sacco 13;

Sendra 10; Vaccaro 9; Page 8; Desa 5; Addy 4; Scilicuna 3;

Scilicuna 3; Jones 3; Wilson 3; Penzo 2; acosta 2; Krajacic 2; J. Banagan 2; T. Polak 2; Sternitt 1.

DANDENONG CITY: Fox 20; Gadsby 17; Kelly 8;

Cupido 6; Bonnelly 6; Price 4; wetherspoon 4; Willcocks 3; vanhout 3; squazzato 3; Colvill 3; Valli 3; Waaldyk 2; Dosen 1.

HEIDELBERG UNITED:

A. Kamanatidis 10; J. Angel 10; G. Mulov 7; T. Vagias 6;

V. Toro 5; C. Avian 4; C.

Vassilos 4; C. Banicas 3; J.

Dosen 1.

STH MELBOURNE/MODIALLOC: W. Rose 24; J. Kranjc 11; D. Boland 9; S. Tsakalidis 3; Spears 2; C. Larogas 2; J. Lambrou 1; P. Karavasil 1; C. Anacostas 1; P. Stogiannidis 1; J. Paparas 1; C. Mihalopoulos 1.

WERRIBEE: K. Crozier 29; D. Lord 11; S. Crilly 10; W. Liang 9; A. Carless 6; C. Dixon 4; S. Kinear 2; X. Haveax 2; J. Dimitrijev 2; K. Piotrowski 2; R. Plessa 2; S. Newton 2; P. Reardon 2; Digoacchino 1.

CAULFIELD CITY: J.

Giamos 19; G. Theophanidis 3; W. Stanaway 3; Fox 3; P.

Hopper 3; Green 2; Walmsley 2; G. Wallace 1; L.

McLoskey 1; C. Earley 1.

GREENSBOROUGH: R.

Koenen 5; K. Bateman 10;

M. Drake 8; M. Thomas 3; S.

Foster 3; F. Vanderslik 3; M.

Posar 3; G. Stafford 3; G.

De Laney 5; L. Sakkas 5; T.

Talidis 4; J. Sahinidis 2; A.

Triantafyllis 2; F. Tsitsikidis 1.

CHELSEA: A. Neri 17; G.

Gaskin 13; M. McCormick 5;

W. McAlandy 3; B. Cravos 2;

H. Frick 2; T. Randall 2; E.

Geist 1; J. Klasens 1; M.

Butley 1; F. Bolton 1.

ESSENDON CITY: Powell 21; Maloukis 9; Tribuzio 9; Panayiotidis 8; Capponi 7; Dililza 7; Zavatieri 6; Corley 6; Dililza 3; Vecchiaro 3; Tribuzio 2; Mattson 2; Iagnatidis 2; Gennai 1; Manini 1.

FERNTREE GULLY: Derody 7; Sovires 7; Pearson 5; Dekoort 4; Gray 4; Brett 3; Young 3; Ireson 3; Hakooyort 3; Skinner 3; McMechan 2; Lovat 2; Robinson 2; Steenberger 2; Verzantvoort 2; Birnie 1; Wilson 1.

GLEEMONT: D. Tuck 22;

D. Lemmings 11; A. Ogilvie 6; F. Intruss 6; R. Mels 5; R.

Guenter 2; R. Mels 1; R.

Kurtovic 1; M. Brandic 1.

MONASH UNIVERSITY:

C. Mullett 9; R. Plumb 4; A.

Bersier 4; P. McManamon 3;

P. Walker 3; M. King 3; E.

Gelsy 3; K. Schneider 3; B.

Wheeler 2; C. Weers 1; J.

Morgan 2; S. Martin 1; R.

Ryff 1.

NORTH GEELONG: D.

Krajina 25; Z. Dula 22; S.

Vukovic 2; J. Hrkic 8; F.

Simovic 7; S. Perinic 6; I.

Ivanovic 2; G. Pozar 2; M.

Kurtovic 1; M. Brandic 1.

SOUTH YARRA: S. Furzer

11; D. Carey 7; J. Conway 7;

G. Baker 5; D. Declaro 4; L.

De Marchi 2; A. Fry 1; F.

Guzman 1; J. Varelli 1;

Hughes 1.

DIVISION THREE

BRIGHTON: J. Donnelly 14; D. Young 13; S. Black 6; S. Whelan 5; S. McLean 5; D. Morigo 3; S. Pugh 2; K. Harrison 2; M. Lally 1.

COBURG: D. Dean 11; W.

Malcolm 6; J. Catterson 4; A.

Bolton 4; S. Cumming 4; B.

Brindle 4; O. Mizzi 3; G. Malagha 3; J. Curzio 3; J. Bonello 3; A. Wilmet 3; B. Malcolm 3; S. Addy 2; D. Masoch 1; C. Kelly 1; C. Pavill 1.

CORIO: D. Slack 11; J.

Coutts 8; J. Malesic 6; N.

Gardner 5; N. Carmichael 3;

H. Doppier 3; G. Tilinger 3;

P. Treblecock 3; P. Dowling

3; D. Thomson 2; K. Nielsen

2; S. Carmichael 2; S. McCarron 2; R. Courts 2;

M. Philip 1; V. Chys 1; E.

Radojevic 1.

ELTHAM: J. Herman 12;

M. Cirka 11; G. Shaw 8;

K. Carey 7; C. Briggs 6; P.

Cirka 6; I. Ferretter 5;

A. Kilpatrick 4; A. Stewart 3;

K. Potter 3; S. Siegrist 2; S.

Kavanagh 2; S. Atanasovski

2; M. Lelios 2.

KEYSBOROUGH: S.

Durand 13; D. Crowley 11; T.

Scitton 9; J. Elysee 6; I.

All 4; C. Jones 6; M. Fraser 3;

A. Clark 2; C. PARLOT 2; C.

McDonald 2.

MORNINGTON: G. Runje

27; M. Jones 12; L. Rowe 8;

S. Stirrup 7; S. Cairns 4;

B. Adams 4; M. Congdon 3;

E. Hughes 2; P. Bent 2; S. Lines

2; I. Waugh 2; D. Robson 1;

R. Robinson 1; A. Puska 1;

R. Dunn 1; P. Martinovic 1.

NTH DANEDONG: W.

Kerr 16; B. Wright 10; A. Hill

8; A. Fox 5; D. Milosevic 5;

Mackie 4; D. Beamish 4;

Mildive 4; W. Collyer 3;

Taylor 3; S. Hargrave 3;

D. Magand 3; Byrne 2; S.

Padmanabhan 1; Z. Gaczeniec 1.

PORTRAIL MELBOURNE: M.

Peterson 39; J. Kostopoulos

17; M. Geson 10; L. Kotzamialis 17; A. Savage 6;

Makiotis 5; R. Tsakalidis 3;

Fonias 2; P. Tsakalidis 1.

PRAHAN: G. Rizos 1.

PRAHAN CITY: L.

J. Sturt 19; S. Salih 7; T. Eravas

6; V. Behic 6; H. Ata 3; L.

Lerotein 3; F. Yilmaz 2; D. Soley 2; Y. Binner 1; P. Petrich 1; C. Fahjina 2; J. Toples 1.

SPRINGVALE CITY: Z.

Greener 18; J. Collan 13; R.

M. Malt 10; J. Patten 7; M.

Runje 6; S. Holig 5; P.

Lennon 5; R. Settle 5; B.

Wessels 6; B. Whetnell 3; P.

Mur 2; B. Keogh 1.

ST. ALBANS: B. Culina

49; W. McIntyre 11; Z. Juricic 10; R. Matsevaz 6; Z.

Brikilac 6; R. Tattam 3; I.

Istuk 3; D. Abela 2; T.

Njegic 1; B. Blukovic 1.

THOMASTOWN: H.

Dallas 13; V. Tavolaro 12; C.

Karamitanis 12; R. Adam 11;

D. Epifano 10; J. Dibbern

5; S. Caruso 6; D. Griffiths

5; T. Cosentino 4; M.

Raponi 3; F. Dallas 3; P.

Pagliuso 3; F. Fragale 2; M.

Comar 2; G. Brooks 1.

THOMAS TOWN: H.

Dallas 13; V. Tavolaro 12; C.

Karamitanis 12; R. Adam 11;

D. Epifano 10; J. Dibbern

5; S. Caruso 6; D. Griffiths

5; T. Cosentino 4; M.

Raponi 3; F. Dallas 3; P.

Pagliuso 3; F. Fragale 2; M.

Comar 2; G. Brooks 1.

THOMAS TOWN: H.

Dallas 13; V. Tavolaro 12; C.

Karamitanis 12; R. Adam 11;

Shunned by Croatia, relegated with Blacktown,

Branko Culina, proclaimed the best player in the Victorian Metropolitan Leagues, is set to return to the big-time as a wiser and more complete player, determined to make his critics eat their words.

"There are a few people in Melbourne who have knocked me in the past, even made me out to be some sort of villain. They're the people I want to show up. I want to silence them once and for all," said the St Albans star.

As a youngster Culina was hailed by some as a future Australian international, a prediction which so far has fallen far short of the mark but at 25, Culina believes he still has a lot to offer.

"I've learned a lot in the past couple of years. I've matured both as a person and as a player. I often reflect on the wise words of Dom Kapetanovic who said to me: 'Branko, a great player is an intelligent person. If you can't think you can't make it to the top.' I've been a bit too naive, too headstrong in the past but I'm different now. I've got a point to prove."

Culina was born in Zadar, Croatia. His parents separated when he was just four months old and an uncle brought him and his mother to Australia in January, 1968. Each parent has remarried. Culina's father still lives in Croatia.

The Culinas arrived in Melbourne on a Sunday. That same afternoon Culina went to watch a Mintoff Cup clash between Croatia and George Cross.

"Croatia won 4-1 but I was particularly impressed by a Croatia player called Billy Vojtek. Of all the players out there that day I picked Billy as the player I'd most like to emulate. He became my idol. I followed his career very closely. In fact, if he played poorly or wasn't picked for Australia I used to cry."

Culina's playing career started with Melbourne Croatia's under-10 team. He was a centre forward and along with another former Melbourne Croatia junior, Eddie Krnecic, Culina held a junior goalscoring record at the club of 45 goals in a season. However, current Croatia first-team regular, Steve Gojevic, blitzed that record about eight years later, scoring over 100 goals in a season.

Croatia was expelled from the VSF in 1972. Culina recalls the day he heard of the expulsion.

"I was at school, playing table tennis. It was a Tuesday afternoon and I listened to the radio when the news broke that we had been kicked out of the VSF. I was shattered, even as a youngster, although obviously I couldn't comprehend the full implications."

"We went to training. Nobody knew what to do. Duze Zemunik was my junior coach. People just walked about saying that Croatia doesn't exist anymore in soccer. Everyone was upset."

Culina joined Juventus under-16s in 1973 and finished the season as leading scorer with 16 goals. At Juventus he was one of a crop of promising juniors who included Bruno Sabidussi, Serge Sabadini and Carlo Baravelli.

That same year Culina also tasted senior soccer. He played four reserve games for Juventus.

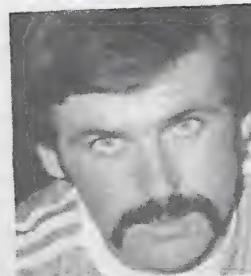
"I'll always remember my first reserve team game. It was against George Cross and Joe Wilson had just come out from England. He was a bit tired from the flight so he was played in the reserves and I was pitted against him. I was only 15 and it was great honor for me to play against a player of his calibre."

The Culina family moved from Carlton to St Albans in late 1973 which led to Culina's first stint with the local club.

By CRAIG MACKENZIE



Coach Tony Vrzina — he had a big effect on Culina.



John Gardiner — it was because of disputes with the then Croatia coach that Culina left the club.



Rale Rasic: Culina went to Blacktown to learn from him.

"Sandy Henderson was coaching St Albans and I went to the ground just to train and prepare myself for the coming season. Sandy liked what he saw so he asked me to join. He told me that he'd give me a go in the first team so I agreed."

"I ended up as Player of the Year at St Albans and finished fifth in the voting for the best player in First Division. Altona City defender Ian Hynds won the best First Division player award."

That same year also was one of the highlights of Culina's representative career.

He played in the Victorian under-18 side coached by Bobby McLachlan.

"That probably was one of the best Victorian junior sides I've seen. Andy Bozikas and Mendo Ristovski also were in the team. I only was 16 at the time but I'll never forget the national titles that year. South Australia was particularly strong with John Kosmina and Yakkia Banovic in its team. We finished third by beating Queensland 3-2. I scored twice and Andy Bozikas scored our third goal."

Culina stood out for soccer for the first three months of the 1975 season. He had received offers from Juventus, Essendon Lions, Sunshine, Albion Rovers, Footscray J.U.S.T. and Preston Makedonia and understandably was undecided about his future.

"St Albans offered me \$400 to sign on which was good money for a Metro club in those days. Ian Peth-

erick, Sunshine's coach, had invited me to train there and he must have liked what he saw because Sunshine and St Albans had agreed to terms. That was when Tony Vrzina stepped in. He said to me that I should join a Croatian club. I was Croatian so I'd be happy being around other Croatians. I was very impressed by Tony.

"St Albans was prepared to sell me to Sunshine for \$800 but I said that I wanted to join Essendon Lions. Croatians had just got involved with Lions and for all intents and purposes it was a Croatian club."

"But when Vrzina approached St Albans my transfer price jumped to \$2,000. However St Albans made the mistake of not lodging my contract with the VSF at the start of the season. In fact there was no record of me signing a contract with St Albans so the federation ruled that I was a free player and I joined Lions."

"Being young and Croatian I quickly became an idol of the fans. I finished second in the First Division best and fairest player award in 1975. The winner was former Slavia and Victoria player David High who was playing for Frankston City then."

"That same year I played for the Metropolitan XI with Duncan Cummings, Billy McIntyre, Alan Lenders, Tony Hamill and Bruce Roberts. Once again Bobby McLachlan was my coach."

The following year, 1976, Croatia finished third in First Division but with the formation of the PSL the top four First Division sides were brought into State League. Green Gully Ajax, Frankston City, Croatia and Altona City were promoted.

The seeds of Culina's unrest at Croatia were sown the same year.

"At the end of the 1976 season I was offered a trial with Dutch club Sparta Rotterdam. One of the Sparta officials was on holiday here and he came to watch a game between Croatia and Waverley City. I was in form that afternoon and the Sparta official offered me a three-month trial with air fares and accommodation thrown in. I was under 21 so I needed my mother's signature on my passport. When Croatia found out a few people there were against the move. They spoke to my mother and in the end she refused to sign the papers for my passport. I felt miserable. I spoke my mind and got into strife with some officials at Croatia.

"I still was upset when the 1978 season started even though I had been selected, in January, to the Victorian State squad for games against Derby County and Dundee United later that year.

"In fact, two weeks after I was picked in the State squad, Croatia played Makedonia in the final of the Ampol Cup. I was playing midfield against Billy McClymont. We both were in the State squad so this game was important for us to prove who was the better player. Makedonia hammered us from the start as was their style in those days. They attacked relentlessly and were 2-0 up after only 20 minutes. Near the end of the first half I scored to make it 2-1. We were getting on top of Makedonia in the second half when our player-coach, John Gardiner, decided to take me and Tommy Cummings off in the 60th minute. Kenny Murphy equalised about 10 minutes from the end and we eventually won 5-4 on penalties after extra time.

"After that match a lot of celebrations were going on in the dressing room. Kyle Patterson (former Soccer Action' assistant editor) came up and asked me a few questions. I should have kept my mouth shut but I didn't realise that what I was saying would appear in print. Anyway, the committee didn't like what they read in 'Soccer Action' so the following week, when the league season started, I was on the bench. I was good enough to make the Victorian squad but couldn't get a game for Croatia!"

"I never had any big arguments with John Gardiner but we just couldn't get on well together. It was particularly disappointing for me."

"We played against South Australian club Beograd in the Philips Cup in 1978 and we thrashed them 5-0. I scored the first three goals in what is one of the most memorable games of my career. When we got back to Melbourne the following day, a Sunday, we were playing a State League game against Hakoah at Middle Park. I thought that surely, after my

Culina's heading back to the big time

HE'LL LEAVE



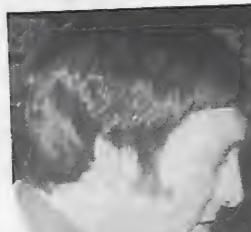
Branko Culina (left) in action for Croatia (Vic), against Mick Watkins of Juventus.

Gardiner is a bloody good coach, make no mistake about that.

"Anyway, the week after our Ampol Cup win we played our first State League game of the season at Schineller Reserve against Western Suburbs. I was having a great game as a twin striker alongside Carl Gilder. I was really motivated to play well."

"You see, I felt that because I wasn't British I had to do extra well to get a game. That may sound a bit strange. You would expect a Croatian to have an advantage in team selection at a Croatian club but that wasn't the case in those days. Actually I think that a small section of people at the club made me out to be some sort of villain even though I was a big favorite with the majority of our supporters. Remember too that during my time at Melbourne Croatia I watched Eddie Krnecic and Yakkia Banovic go to bigger and better things while I was too often relegated to sitting on the bench."

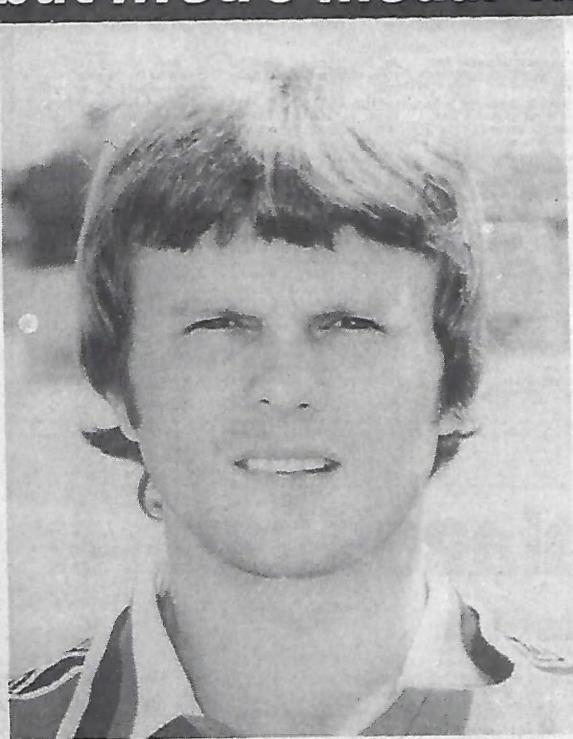
"Anyway, back to this game against Suburbs. I thought that I had played really well but the following week, as I walked into the Olympic



Joe Wilson — Culina's first opponent in senior soccer. Culina was 16, Wilson well over 30. Wilson later coached George Cross, Altona, Australia and Juventus among others.



Duze Zemunik — Culina's junior coach at the time Croatia was expelled from the VSF in 1972.



St Albans star Branko Culina — 1982 Victorian Metropolitan League Player of the Year.

ST. ALBANS FOR A \$6000 FEE

Park dressing rooms to prepare for a game, Gardiner told me that I wasn't playing. I said that I had had enough of this treatment and that I wanted a transfer. Manny Poulakakis at Juventus and Dom Kapetanovic at Sydney Croatia both wanted to sign me. I met with Melbourne Croatia's committee and was offered a new contract with a \$4,000 signing on fee, just to sit on the bench and keep the supporters happy. I told the committee that I wanted to play soccer first and foremost. The money wasn't the most important thing."

Kapetanovic, who had been coaching Sydney Croatia only for a month, and the Sydney Croatia president, flew to Melbourne and spoke to Culina and Melbourne Croatia officials. It was agreed that Culina would be loaned to Sydney Croatia for \$3,000 for the remainder of the 1980 season. Should Sydney Croatia want to keep Culina for the following season it would have to pay Melbourne Croatia \$5,000 and Culina would become a Sydney Croatia player.

Culina received \$5,000 to sign on with Sydney Croatia and was a hit immediately with the Sydney club's fans. He scored in his first game, a 2-1 victory over Manly, and scored six goals in his first five games. Sydney Croatia's attendances rose noticeably. They had hovered around the 1500 mark but once the team started winning they suddenly jumped to near 6,000.

"When the season ended I was very happy. Kapetanovic taught me so much! In fact I'd say that he improved my game by at least 35 percent."

Culina finished the season as equal leading scorer at Sydney Croatia alongside present APIA midfielder Zdenko Kafka.

He was set to sign for Sydney Croatia for the 1981 season when in stepped then Blacktown City coach Rale Rasic. Culina took up the story:

"I had a brilliant game for Sydney Croatia against the NSW side which was warming up for its match against Dinamo Zagreb. This was the first time that I had caught Rasic's eye. He was coaching NSW then. Raul Blanco was coaching Marconi and he was watching this warm-up game. Both Rasic and Blanco approached me after the game and wanted to sign me."

"Within two days Blacktown and Marconi had got in touch with Mel-



Billy Vojtek, now player-coach of Western Suburbs, was Culina's boyhood idol.

bourne Croatia and offered \$9,000 for me. Remember, that I still was tied to Melbourne Croatia.

"The terms of my loan to Sydney Croatia were that Sydney Croatia had to pay the additional \$5,000 to buy me by January, 1981. They failed to do so and I decided to join Rasic at Blacktown. I was transferred to Blacktown for \$9,000.

"I chose Blacktown simply because of Rasic. I reasoned that if I followed someone as successful as Rasic then I too may be successful. I always have regarded myself as a top player. I've always believed in my ability but the one area of my game which has worried me is my lack of consistency. I thought that Rasic would add the finishing touches to my game."

"Things never really worked out for Culina at Blacktown. He received a bad groin injury after his PSL debut against Brisbane Lions and didn't recover fully."

"I played a few good games but the injury restricted me. We had



Mark Jankovics — Culina was to partner him in Marconi's attack.

good players at Blacktown, make no mistake about that, but we didn't have depth. It was obvious long before the season ended that we would be relegated.

"What bugged me most of all was the thought that a few people in Melbourne would be thinking that when I wasn't in the team it was because I wasn't good enough. That's always stuck in my mind. I have to prove to a few people in Melbourne that I'm a good player.

"My wife was very homesick at the end of the season. She was pleading with me to go back to Melbourne. It was a tough decision to make. Kapetanovic just had been appointed coach of Marconi and he wanted to sign me. He told me that Mark Jankovics and I would be his main strikers. But my wife was getting impatient. We never really settled in Sydney so I decided to come back to Melbourne.

"I wanted to return to Melbourne Croatia but the meeting I had with the committee was a farce. I don't think they were really interested in signing me. Anyway, I believe that a player never should offer himself to a club. You downgrade yourself by doing that but I made an exception in Melbourne. Croatia's case only to have the club refuse me.

"Then St Albans came into the hunt and agreed with Blacktown to sign me for \$6,000. However, St Albans has to pay Blacktown \$3,000 this year if I move to another club. I've got a \$6,000 maximum transfer fee clause in my present contract and I'm going to join another club next year, so St Albans will have to pay \$3,000 to Blacktown out of the \$6,000 it's going to get for selling me. Rale Rasic is a brilliant negotiator.

"I've had a great year but I miss the challenge and glamor of the higher leagues. I'm 25 years old and I honestly believe that I still can play for Australia.

"I've heard rumors that Juventus, Ajax, Makedonia and Croatia are interested in signing me but I've heard nothing concrete from any of these clubs. The strongest rumor concerns Croatia and deep down it is the club that I'd love to join."

Meanwhile, Culina contrives his new career as a soccer columnist with The Footscray 'Mail' and Sunshine 'Advocate'.

St Albans star Branko Culina — 1982 Victorian Metropolitan League Player of the Year.



Left: Andy Bozikas (Fawkner) and, right: Mendo Rietovski (JUST) — Culina's team mates in the Victorian under 18 side.



Bobby McLachlan (Ajax), coached Culina in various representative teams.



John Kosmina (Sydney City) — he and Yakka Banovic (Derby County) were in the strong SA under 18 team.



Sandy Henderson — the coach who first lured Culina to St Albans.



Eddie Krnecic — he shared with Culina the Croatia junior record of 45 goals in a season.



Steve Gojevic — he scored more than 100 goals to break the record of Culina and Krnecic.

Ian Petherick — had Culina signed for Sunshine but lost him.



Duncan Cummings (left) of Helles-Hakosh and Billy McIntyre (St Albans) — two of Culina's team-mates in the Metropolitan League representative team.



Publicity still our greatest problem

The major problem bugging the national league is an overwhelming lack of professionalism where it counts most — the promotion of the game.

There simply cannot be any arguments about this fact. The proof is evident at every game where crowds are shrinking, in every unfavourable article or report which appears in newspapers and other sections of the media and, even worse, in the lack of coverage of many worthwhile events.

For an example of the latter, just consider the deafening silence which surrounded the Socceroos' tour of Singapore.

Compare it, if you are old enough to remember, with the saturation coverage of our boys' appearance at the Saigon Tournament in the sixties, to mention just one example.

So, everyone recognises the problem but what is being done about it?

The answer is — NOTH-ING!

Our clubs and administrators bemoan the "unfairness" of media exposure for soccer, continue putting forward the case that they deserve to be the code's God-given right to a better deal.

What they fail — or are unwilling — to recognise is that the best form of help is self help.

There are exceptions; take St George, Budapest's Frank Arok for instance.

Any successful enterprise becomes so simply by allocating resources to promotion and publicity work.

Some years ago the ASF proudly proclaimed its intention of employing a full-time media officer, a decision which was widely acclaimed.

Almost immediately the project lapsed into the usual succession of scandals, rumors and whispers.

For a start, it was never advertised, so rumors flew

around as to the identity of applicants, to whom they applied and what — if any — the job specifications were.

As a result of this, I would wager that not too many self-respecting professionals would have applied.

All this didn't stop ASF president Sir Arthur George glibly announcing in due course that a man had been appointed (God only knows how they went about finding him) and his identity would be announced the moment he had served his notice with his employers at the time.

To no-one's great surprise that's the last we ever heard of that particular initiative.

Publicity and promotional activities are still looked upon as one of the peripheral

IN FOCUS

With Peter Scott



duties of the ASF secretary and his PSL counterpart.

This low priority is of course evident in the quality of soccer's effort in this, the most important, of all activities.

The Victorian Football League has recognised the vital necessity for professional expertise. Even the NSW Rugby League — not the most progressive of all organisations — has seen the light of day with Bill Morley's appointment.

Numerous amateur sporting organisations place infinitely more importance on

this aspect; I would mention basketball and athletics, to name just two.

In NSW the Department of Leisure, Sports and Tourism and its Minister Mike Cleary are fully aware of the importance of this aspect of sports administration, recognising it by running numerous clinics, workshops and conferences at many of which I am fortunate enough to have been a lecturer.

I have never seen anyone from major league soccer in attendance!

The league is no longer the Phillips Soccer League of Australia.

Phillips has been out and decided to put its money into VFL football instead.

There is a desperate — and belated — search about for sponsorship.

It may materialise, or it may not. I hope it does.

But sponsorship money actually does not look for the league if the league has high profile recognition in the media, which in turn generates similar recognition among the general public.

However, such recognition must be worked for, which means the employment of professionals with experience and know-how.

That isn't all, either.

The importance of their work must be recognised by the league and its clubs in the high budgeting priority allocated to the work of such professionals, over and above their salaries.

Their work must be based

on flexible but specific plans of several years' duration.

There is simply no such thing as instant success. Soccer has lost a whole generation in the seventies and if you want to know where they are, just take a glance at the Australian Rules and Rugby League lineups of the day, not to mention the many Olympic sports.

Last, but not least, professionals must be allowed to do a professional job, within specific guidelines from their employers but without undue interference.

This, of course, would necessitate a major change of attitudes on the part of soccer's administration — and I'm not optimistic.

The media still will be scratching for information in 1983, there will still be a lack of telephones in some grounds, everyone else will have higher priority when it comes to parking at a number of venues.

And, as my colleague Andrew Detre pointed out a few weeks ago, Sir Arthur George and his entourage still will get up to assorted functions and gatherings to tell everybody how well soccer is doing in Australia and how it is everyone else's fault that we aren't front-page material.

Those of us in the audience at such talkfests have long ago stopped believing such pronouncements.

But frankly, I don't know what is more harmful to the sport:

If our officials actually believe what they keep saying, in the face of all the mounting evidence to the contrary, thus proving themselves incapable of recognising reality which stares them in the face...

Or, if they keep congratulating themselves, knowing that it is only false bravado, trying to mislead the public and the media.

Waddle may replace Sumner

When the 1982 season ended with a whimper for West Adelaide, the club was not sure if it should hold a wake or throw a party.

But with the dust now having settled, the club can look back on 1982 with a great deal of pride.

After two pathetic seasons in which it finished in the relegation zone, West climbed to a highly satisfactory ninth position in 1982.

But what probably took a bit of the shine off its mid-table position was its poor performances in the second half of the season, particularly in the final nine matches when it could win only once 2-1 away over Canberra.

Indeed, as late as the 21st round of the season West was sitting in third spot.

But then the rot set in. It only could pick up a meagre

This obviously disappointed coach Alan Vest, who must take a lot of the credit for the team's overall showing.

Vest, who signed a new contract, was confident the club could finish in the top four half way through the season and so did its faithful legion of supporters.

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Meno Toutsidis

four points in its last nine games.

Significantly, it scored only seven goals in this period while in the match before the start of its barren run, it slammed five goals past APIA Leichhardt's disorganised defence.

Vest has made West a force

dropped, though this did not stop him from scoring some crucial goals. The big defender ended with five, third behind Honeyman and Heys.

Clearly, Dunn will be an even bigger asset in 1983.

Meanwhile, Brennan, after a shaky start with the club, has developed into an efficient, hard working midfielder whose biggest problem is controlling his temper.

Brennan, who came to the club with a reputation as a goal scorer, showed that that was not idle talk with a blistering 30 metre goal against Preston in a 5-1 win.

Of the younger brigade, Steve Aitsalas and David Doorne again showed their promise but with at least two seasons behind them and now fully recovered from bad injuries, coach Vest and the fans will be looking for more from them next year.

But what of new signings? As usual, there is ample talk about the possibility of signings.

The club is interested in Azur's trio Wally Bojczuk, Phil Cole and Stuart Blair (Adelaide City wants them also) and Para Hills' Youth Soccercoo striker Joe Mullen.

Heys was clearly Alan Vest's best signing of the season and though he scored only six goals (his season average after four years in the PSL) he made countless others.

His superb crosses brought Honeyman and Heys many goals. He was clearly a favorite with the fans.

The striking was often left to Honeyman and Heys because Manecas and Tim Brown, who often alternated as the third striker, both had problems with injuries and loss of form.

Injury also robbed Vest of winger Jimmy Wright who lasted for only four games of the season, and midfielder Adrian Santrac who was a mid-season casualty.

The futures of both these players with West remain in doubt.

The other major casualties were Kiwis Alan Booth and Steve Sumner. Both had long lay-offs through injury and just to make matters worse they were absent for several weeks because of the World Cup.

Summer, who even when he was fit enough to play did not return West's considerable investment in him, has returned to New Zealand. West has agreed to clear him and Summer has apparently decided to remain home unless he gets an offer from another PSL club.

Boath, who turned in a handful of quite brilliant performances, has employment problems but he looks certain to remain with the club.

Boath met with little success on the field until the match against Heidelberg — his final PSL game before the World Cup.

He was not only the architect of West's 4-0 demolition but scored a brilliant goal himself.

And on his return he slammed in a 35 metre goal against APIA Leichhardt in a 5-2 win for which he greatly deserved.

Vest's other two signings, centre back Robbie Dunn and midfielder Mick Brennan had varying degrees of success.

Dunn, signed from Azzurri, was quite outstanding early in the season, but his concentration wavered late in the year



Steve Sumner — back in New Zealand

His team was well organised and critics surprised by the team's performances were at a loss to explain the reason why an apparently ordinary team on paper could pick up vital points so regularly.

But apart from his organisational abilities, Vest completely revitalised a team which had been completely demoralised by two successive relegation years.

West's growth under him was quite remarkable, and if it continues to develop in 1983 the club again will emerge as a top four candidate and possibly even a championship threat.

After all, West Adelaide remains the only non-Sydney side to win the national league.

With West Adelaide's "reserves" team now in State League, it will be interesting to see if it turns some promising State League youngsters who have hopes of breaking into the PSL.

The theory is that even if they fail to make the PSL side, they still will be able to play State League soccer.

It is expected West Adelaide's team in the Ampol Cup in January, basically will be the PSL side.

Adelaide City also will compete along with the top six sides of the recently completed State League season.

West won the Cup this year when it beat Adelaide City on penalty kicks.

West Adelaide's 1982 results

February 14: V. Brisbane Lions (H) 0-0; 21: Preston (A) 1-1 (Wright); 28: V. Wollongong (H) 4-0 (Honeyman, 3, Heys).

July 4: V. Leichhardt (H) 6-2 (Dunn, Manecas, Booth, Hayes, Honeyman); 11: V. Brisbane City (A) 1-4 (Honeyman); 18: V. Footscray (H) 0-1; 28: V. Canberra City (A) 2-1 (Honeyman, Summer).

August 6: V. Newcastle (H) 1-2 (Dunn); 8: V. Heldberg (A) 0-1; 15: V. St George (H) 1-1 (Dunn); 22: V. Adelaide City (A) 0-0; 29: V. Marconi (H) 0-1.

September 4: V. Sydney City (A) 2-5 (Manecas, Attas).

Brown); 20: V. Wollongong (A) 0-2; 27: V. Olympic (H) 0-1. —

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SCORERS

6 — Heys

5 — Dunn

4 — Manecas, Brown

3 — Attas

2 — Santrac, Booth, Hayes

1 — Wright, Brennan

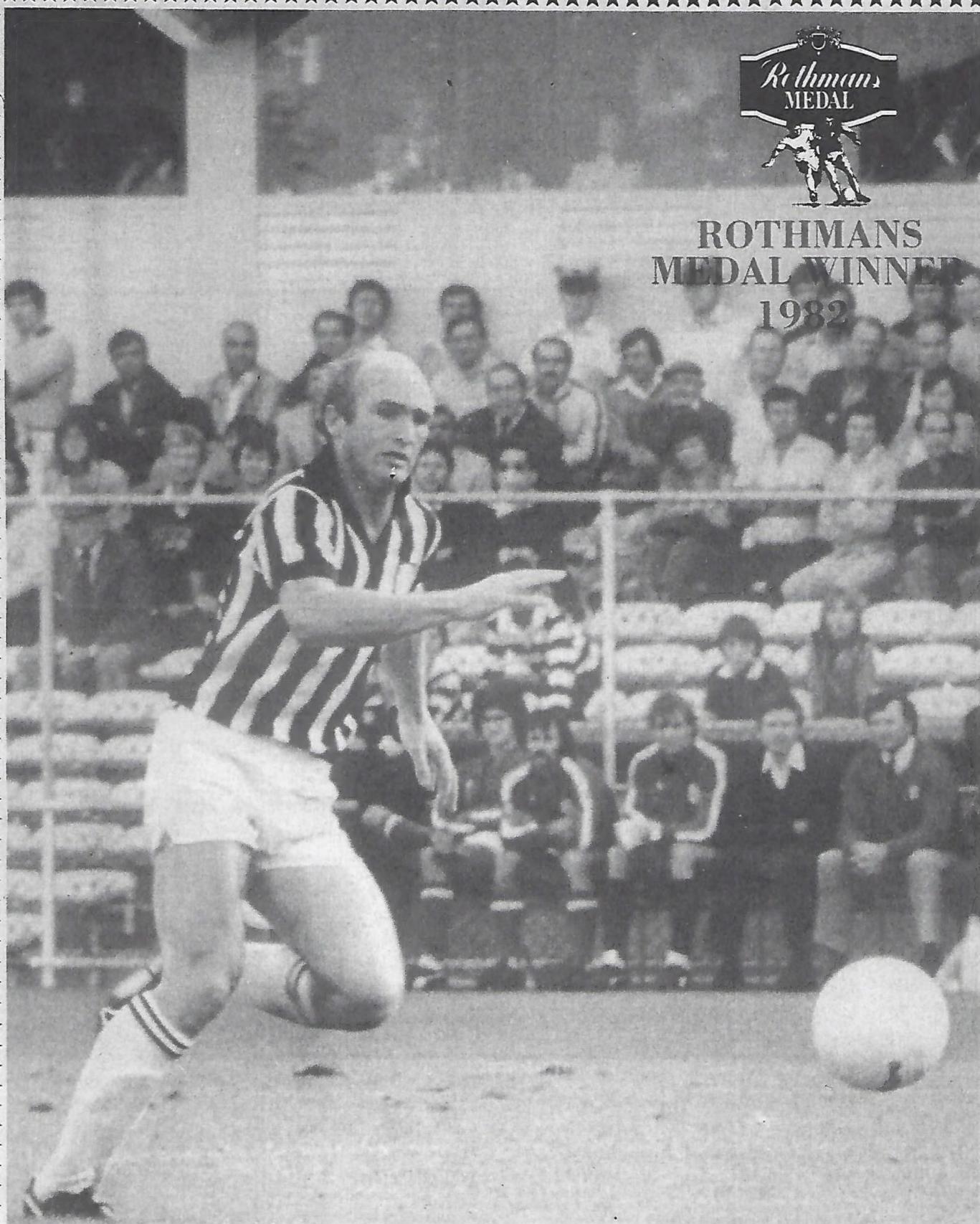
• Club record for season

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